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URDAY MAY 22 1993

BEST FILMS

TODAY
Danzon 1991, Spain (C4, 11.05pm)
Compulsion 1959, US (BBC2, 11.20pm)
TOMORROW
Things Change 1988, US (C4, 9pm)
MONDAY
The Bigamist 1953 US (BBC2, 4pm)
TUESDAY
The Golden Coach 1953, Italy (C4, 2pm)
Forbidden Planet 1956, US (C4, ...)
WEDNESDAY
Bulldog Drummond 1929, US (C4, 2pm)
THURSDAY
Lydia 1941, US (C4, 2pm)
FRIDAY
Frankenstein 1931 US (C4, 11.10pm)

BEST SPORT

TOMORROW
Cricket: One-day International: England vs Australia (BBC1 10.40am; BBC2, 12.30pm)
Monaco Grand Prix (BBC1, 2.15pm)
Football Italia (C4 2.45pm)

WEDNESDAY
Football: European Cup Final: AC Milan v Marseille ...

BEST SCI-FI

Star Trek ... BBC2 ...

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Full reports, pages 8 and 9

DENIS COMPTON AT 75

The laughing cavalier who would have entranced even the Aussies

John Woodcock, page 26

EDUCATION ON MONDAY
Section 2
Pages 32-35

THE TIMES

No. 64,652 MONDAY MAY 24 1993 45p

Triumph by minutes after 28,000 miles

Welcome home: Nuclear Electric, winner of the round-the-world British Steel Challenge yacht race, thronged with wellwishers on arrival in Southampton yesterday. After 28,000 miles against the winds and currents, John Chittenden's vessel finished just 70 minutes ahead of Group 4 Securitas in a nail-biting finish. Reports, pages 14, 23

Tories set to revolt on cheap rail fares

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MacGregor was struggling last night to head off an embarrassing defeat on rail privatisation as Conservative MPs prepared to revolt over cheap fares for pensioners and young people.

In what appeared to be a trial of strength, up to 14 Conservative MPs — enough to defeat the government — were threatening to rebel in tomorrow's vote on the railways bill unless the discounts were guaranteed. The transport secretary is also facing a rebellion from MPs who want British Rail to have the right to bid for the first seven franchises to be awarded next year.

The government's difficulties over the bill, which is in its final stages, were compounded last night by a leaked report suggesting that there will be big fare rises after privatisation and that the exercise could leave the railways £500 million worse off. An opinion poll published at the weekend also suggested that 70 per cent of rail users opposed privatisation.

Ministers are anxious to avoid another confrontation with backbenchers so soon after the Maastricht saga, but Mr MacGregor is not yet ready to force companies taking up rail franchises to offer the discount fares now enjoyed by some two million people, and some MPs expect him to try to face the rebellion down.

With a government majority of only 18, it would take only ten Tories to vote against the bill to leave the government in severe trouble if the other parties marshal their full forces. Conservative whips remain hopeful, however, that they can whittle down the number of dissidents.

Ministers are adamant that there will be no retreat over demands that British Rail should be allow to bid for the franchises. They emphasised that BR was effectively in the competitions as the existing operator. If rival companies, including BR management teams, could not run the service more efficiently, BR would remain in place, they said. It would be "quite illogical" to allow BR to bid.

Sir Keith Speed, the former defence minister who is leading the Tory revolt, suggested that only an announcement by Mr MacGregor that the guarantees were being written into the bill would avert a rebellion. The government has already agreed to guarantee the continuation of the discount card for disabled people, and MPs are arguing that this should be extended to other groups.

MacGregor: may offer last-minute concession

In a series of meetings with MPs, Mr MacGregor repeated the line taken by the government during the bill's committee stage: that the franchisees would agree voluntarily to set up the railcard schemes to boost passengers and revenue. BR was not required by law to run the schemes but happily did so. Ministers' unspoken fear is that a legal requirement to adopt concessionary schemes might deter potential franchise companies.

Mr MacGregor appeared yesterday to be leaving open the door for last-minute concessions, but he was unlikely to go as far as the rebels wanted. He told BBC1's *Breakfast With Frost*: "I have indicated the difficulties of making it statutory." He added however: "If we can find a way of meeting some of the concerns, obviously I will do so because I am well aware of the importance of railcards."

There is speculation that he will promise to tell the franchising authority to take discount schemes into account when making its decisions over particular lines. But senior rebels said that would still leave British Rail, which would continue to operate much of the network after privatisation, in a position where it was not forced to operate the schemes.

John Prescott, the shadow transport secretary, meanwhile pledged that a Labour government would renationalise the railways and branded the bill the government's "poll tax on wheels". He said: "The government are getting very scared about this bill. It's a kind of poll tax on wheels, their backbenchers are getting distinctly nervous about the effects of the bill." Reversing rail privatisation would be quite easy, he said. "The public want that, and it's a good chance for Labour to show that a publicly-accountable system could provide a public network and meet public need, not private greed."

Mr MacGregor retorted: "Every Labour spokesman always said they would oppose what we were doing and reverse it, and on every other one (privatisation) they have now decided not to reverse, and the very simple reason is because they have all worked."

Fare fears, page 2
Politics, page 10
Diary, page 16
William Rees-Mogg and Peter Riddell, page 17

Muslim outrage as Vance-Owen plan is buried

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE AND PHILIP WEBSTER

PRESIDENT Izetbegovic of Bosnia last night rejected the American-led deal for the republic as "totally unacceptable", while the Vance-Owen peace plan was widely seen as effectively dead.

Mr Izetbegovic said he would not take part in talks on implementing the American agreement and Ejup Ganic, his vice-president, said the declaration shelved the UN-backed Vance-Owen plan that divides Bosnia into ten ethnic cantons. "I expect Lord Owen [the EC peace envoy] and the others to resign after this. It's a total repudiation of his plan," Mr Ganic said.

However, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, welcomed Saturday's agreement in Washington as "realistic". He announced he was calling for direct talks between Serbs, Muslims and Bosnian Croats to divide the former Yugoslav republic into three confederated states.

The Western initiative, which aims to contain the war but which leaves Serb and Croat forces in possession of seized territory at least for now, was also criticised in Britain and America.

British politicians condemned the West's "climbdown" over Bosnia but Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, insisted that economic sanctions would be maintained against Serbia until Bosnian Serb troops were removed from the conquered areas. He disclosed that no further British troops would be needed to monitor the safe havens strategy. Mr Hurd denied that the "peace-seeking" formula amounted to a decision to leave the Serbs with their gains. There had to be a political process aimed at the withdrawal of Bosnian Serb troops.

Paddy Ashdown, a long-time advocate of a tougher military response in Bosnia, led the attack on the way the West had handled the affair. The Liberal Democrat leader said the agreement to establish safe havens was "the least worst option," but it had come far too late.

In Washington, Daniel Moynihan, a maverick Democratic senator, accused the United States and its allies of "legitimising genocide" and weakening the moral basis of the international order "as it has not been since the 1930s".

In Sarajevo, Mr Izetbegovic likened the plan to the native American Indians being put in reservations to make way for a European-dominated country.

Western strategy, page 13
Leading article, page 17

How careless talk could cost lives in age of mobile phones

■ **Despite many warnings, messages which should be secure are still being made on portable phones vulnerable to easy mechanical eavesdropping**

BY JAMIE DETTMER

SENSITIVE police operations, including those aimed at curbing IRA activity in London, are being jeopardised because of loose talk by officers detailing their plans over mobile telephones. Unguarded comments by civil servants and MPs using the cellular phone system are also compromising security and placing lives at risk.

Just over a week ago, a mobile telephone call revealing where and when police road blocks were to be mounted was intercepted using a cheap scanner from a high street store. The itinerary of a senior Northern Ireland civil servant travelling from Belfast to London was also discovered using the same equipment.

The interceptions are bound to add to the alarm over the ease with which mobile phone conversations can be monitored. Last week the Police Federation voted to press for new laws to control the sale and possession of scanners, which are constantly being improved. Some surveillance equipment — known as the "desktop GCHQ" — has begun to circulate that allows eavesdroppers not only to tune in to conversations but also to identify a caller's number and monitor it whenever it is used.

The calls intercepted detailing the road blocks and the Northern Ireland official's London visit — monitored on a widely available £249 scanner — could have been picked up by the IRA, which is known to monitor cell phone frequencies.

Police officers and civil servants are officially advised not to use mobile phones except for the most innocuous conversations, but on May 16 a police control centre contacted an inspector on his mobile number to tell him that the road blocks were to be thrown across Northumberland Avenue at 8 pm and Lambeth Palace Road at 9.15 pm that night. His presence was requested. Asked about the security lapse, Scotland Yard said it could not discuss road block policy or what guidance is given to police on the use of mobile phones.

Twenty-four hours before the police call was intercepted, a conversation was picked up between two civil servants in Northern Ireland discussing the arrival time at Heathrow airport of a senior government official from Belfast. The name of his hotel was also mentioned. Mark McCaffrey, a Northern Ireland Office spokesman, said: "All departments have guidelines which point up how easy it is for the cellular system to be listened in to and civil servants are warned not use it to discuss confidential matters." The advice is believed to include

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Mothers face child benefit tax threat

BY OUR CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AN ASSAULT on benefits enjoyed by the wealthy is at the heart of the government's attempt to rein back public spending, Michael Portillo disclosed yesterday as he faced a cabinet revolt over his demands for tough cuts in next year's targets.

With his long-term review apparently in danger of being wrecked by leaks over threatened areas, the Treasury chief secretary insisted that child benefit would remain a universal benefit and would rise in line with inflation.

But he left open the possibility that it is to be taxed, and effectively confirmed that free prescriptions for the elderly and charges for the use of hospital beds are under scrutiny. In a frank radio interview, Mr Portillo said: "If you are conducting a review of public spending, the fact that prescriptions are available free of charge to Lady Thatcher and Lord Callaghan, the fact that a millionaire's wife can get child benefit, the fact that a company director gets free food as well as free medical care when he is in hospital ... all represent questions that need to be asked."

When there was a public spending problem it was right to ask questions about the resources that went to the rich and people that did not need them. He went on: "The fact

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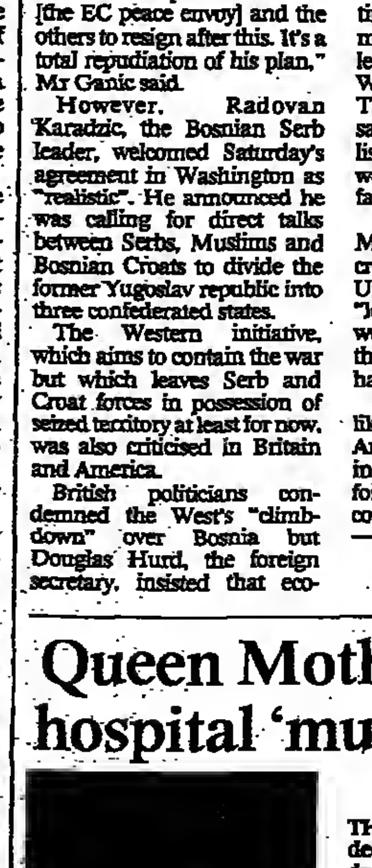
Queen Mother leaves hospital 'much better'



Out and about: the Queen Mother yesterday

BY IAN MURRAY

THE Queen Mother left Aberdeen Royal Infirmary yesterday after her third operation in recent years to remove a piece of fish from her throat. Smiling but looking frail after hour-long surgery on Thursday, she went to her holiday home on the Balmoral estate to convalesce for a few days.

"I am very well, thank you, much better," she told journalists before climbing into a flower-laden Range Rover with Lady Elizabeth Bassett, her lady-in-waiting, for the 50-mile drive to Birkhall.

Only because her doctors have insisted that she take time to recuperate after the

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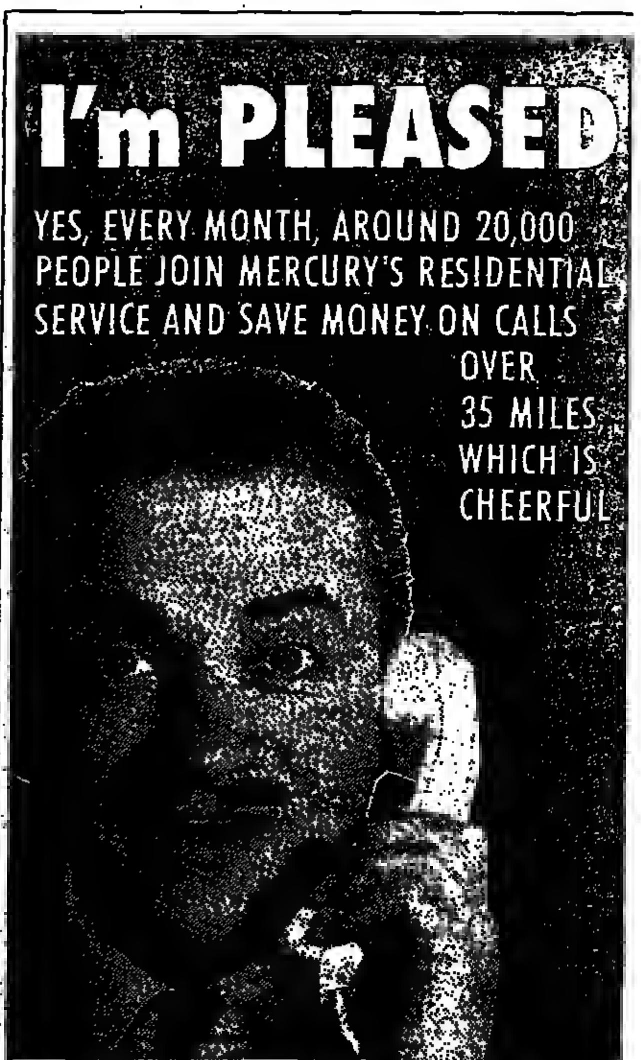

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Outlaw cowboy clampers, AA says

Unscrupulous wheelclamping firms should be forced out of business by the outlawing of their activities, the Automobile Association will tell the government today. The AA has backed a suggestion that wheelclamping on private land be made illegal unless the firms have a local authority licence.

The Home Office is examining ways of curtailing the operations of rogue firms that demand £100 or more to release clamped cars. The AA opposed all but one of six options in a discussion document, including a ban on all clamping. Kenneth Faircloth, public affairs director, said: "It's vital to strike a balance between the right of a motorist to park a car without being trapped by an unscrupulous clamper and the right of a landowner to prohibit selfish parking." The AA suggests that release fees should not exceed the £38 charged by police.

Prison ships considered

Prison ships, moored off the coast, are being considered to accommodate low security prisoners as one option to reduce prison overcrowding, the Home Office has confirmed. One reported plan is for two vessels moored off Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, to take 800 prisoners, mainly those nearing the end of their sentence or remand inmates.

Art equals happiness

Only 4 per cent of Britons are happy in their jobs and, if money were no object, about 80 per cent would prefer to pursue a career in the arts, according to an NOP survey, which launches a competition to encourage young artists. The most popular choice was becoming a musician, followed by a writing career.

Hospital police

Police are setting up a sub-station at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel, east London. The move is part of a £350,000 campaign against crime that includes spy cameras, staff radios and alarms and more security guards. Last year, computer thieves stole £35,000 of the hospital's office equipment.

Daughter for Guppy

Darius Guppy, the jailed jewel dealer, has become a father, with the birth of a 6lb 5oz daughter, Isabella, to his wife, Patricia.

Guppy, serving five years at Kirkham prison, Lancashire, for fraud, is expected to ask his friend, Earl Spencer, brother of the Princess of Wales, to be a godfather.

Veterans 're-enact' war

Campaign veterans from conflicts dating back to the first world war brought history alive for visitors to the Imperial War Museum at RAF Duxford, near Cambridge, yesterday. In an oral history event which continues today, they recall the past while standing alongside the tanks, military vehicles and aircraft from the battle zones.

Women still lose out on Oxford firsts

By John O'Leary

THE controversy over equal opportunities at Oxford University will break out again today with the publication in *The Times* of a don's research that shows far fewer women obtaining first class degrees at Oxford than at other universities.

The study by Doctor Jerry McCrum, a fellow of Hertford College Oxford, shows a much greater disparity between the sexes at Oxford than elsewhere. The figures also show big differences between students from state and independent schools.

Oxford's council will decide today whether to accept last week's vote by dons to appoint more readers, rather than professors, to increase the representation of women in the academic ranks. The council could insist on a postal ballot of all academics, but is not expected to do so.

Dr McCrum's research, however, will revive another long-standing concern of equal opportunities campaigners. Students at Cambridge raised the male domination of firsts last month, but the gulf at Oxford appears even wider. Although men take the majority of firsts at old universities, Dr McCrum's study shows that women do better nationally in many of the most popular subjects. At Cambridge, women dominate only in biochemistry, the natural sciences and classics, but at Oxford every main subject awards the majority of firsts to men.

Independent school women have had a better record in recent years than their state school counterparts, but among the men the position is reversed. State school men take the highest proportion of firsts in any of the four categories.

Dr McCrum's figures support findings he published three years ago, which showed men taking up to 50 per cent more firsts than women.

Numerous theories have been advanced for the disparity in first class degrees. Some scientists, including Dr Charles Goodhart, a former fellow of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, who has carried out a similar study of Oxford's greatest rival, blames genetic differences. He argues that males of every species dominate the extremes of performance.

Dr McCrum, however, believes that Oxford's pressurised tutorial and examination systems are responsible for the university's particular situation. He said that state school women often lack the confidence necessary to shine in such circumstances. In addition, premenstrual tension is likely to afflict a high proportion of examination candidates.

Education, page 35

McCrum: report reopens dispute on degrees

Stately pile: Lady St Oswald and the Countess of Mexborough examine a cup at Britain's stateliest car boot sale yesterday. Traffic stretched 15 miles in many directions as the owners of about 60 country homes sold off everything from silverware, paintings and fox furs to jewellery and jams at the sale at Nostell Priory, near Wakefield, West Yorkshire. Afterwards, Lady St Oswald, who organised the sale to benefit the National Asthma Campaign and the National Trust, said it had been a terrific success. Scores of people crowded each sales pitch, from gold-coloured Rolls-Royces to horse boxes and large vans. Brian Bolton, from Leeds, splashed out on a vintage bottle of wine and a brass coal bucket, advertised at £120 but sold to him after haggling for £90.

Transport 2000 report

Rail privatisation will push up fares

By Tim Jones, transport correspondent

THE government's rail privatisation plans could lead to huge fare increases and widespread line closures, according to the first independent cost analysis of the proposals.

Transport consultants Steer Davies Gleave claim the net effect of the proposals would worsen the finances of the railways by 15 per cent or £500 million, in a report commissioned by the pressure group, *Transport 2000*.

This figure, it says, could rise to almost £1 billion if Railtrack, the publicly owned company which will lease track and signalling to private operators, is required to make an 8 per cent return to the Treasury as other nationalised industries do.

Hundreds of miles of rural services could be threatened, and commuters, using Network SouthEast trains, confronted with fare increases of 37 per cent over current levels. If the measures proved politically unacceptable, the report argues, they could only be offset by a 60 per cent increase of £450 million annually in taxpayers' subsidy.

While John MacGregor, the transport secretary, described the findings as "preposterous and scaremongering", Tory rebels will seize on the report when they oppose the passage of the bill through the Commons today. They will be further encouraged by a newspaper Gallup poll which suggests that privatisation is opposed by more than 70 per cent of rail users.

The report analyses the cost to British Rail of running passenger services in 1991-92 against the likely cost of a privatised service. Working on the assumption that running costs would rise by 15 per cent or £500 million, the report says that all of the three main passenger operations now run by BR would suffer.

"The cost implications over the immediate period to 1995 look particularly poor. During this time, government plans for cash support for BR are for a reduction of half, from £1,100 million in 1992-93 to £500 million in 1994-95."

None of the three main operations, currently run by BR, would emerge unscathed. Inter City, it says, could not continue as it now does subsidy free and would be forced to withdraw marginal services and cut back on investment.

Network SouthEast, which received £345 million in subsidies in 1991-92, would be faced with fare increases of 37 per cent. These could rise to 74 per cent if the government insists on an 8 per cent return from Railtrack.

Regional Railways, which received subsidies of £629 million would, the report says, be worst hit. "Very substantial network reductions would be needed unless extra tax-payer support was available."

Tory rebellion on rail privatisation grows

By Jonathan Prynn

REBEL Tory MPs yesterday kept up the pressure on the government to make concessions over rail privatisation ahead of tomorrow's vote in the Commons, where the bill is reaching its final stages.

Up to 14 backbenchers may support amendments to the bill tabled by Sir Keith Speed because of concern over the survival of concessionary cards and loss-making railway lines. Sir Keith, the MP for Ashford, inherited the mantle of rebel ringleader after the death of Robert Adley.

Six other Tory MPs have added their names to the amendments. They are: Andrew Bowden (Brighton, Kemptown), Tim Rathbone (Lewes), Hugh Dykes (Harrow East), Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield), David Nicholson (Taunton) and Richard Alexander (Newark). A separate amendment has been tabled by Paul Channon stressing the need for consultation, but the former transport secretary has distanced himself from any rebellion.

Other MPs reported to be concerned about the government's plans include Sir Rhodes Boyson (Brent North), Sebastian Coe (Falmouth and Camborne) and Stephen Day (Cheadle).

The rebels want statutory guarantees that the London Travelcard and discount cards for young people and the elderly will be continued by companies operating rail franchises after privatisation. The government has refused to specify such requirements, fearing that they may drive away potential bidders.

Sir Keith: leader of rail sell-off rebels

Mothers may be taxed on benefit

Continued from page 1

that we pay some benefits to people irrespective of their means, irrespective of whether they are rich or poor, does mean that we are spending money that cannot then be used to relieve poverty."

He said it was difficult to withdraw benefits from well-off people without affecting the less well-off: "I have set out on the review on the assumption that we are going to stick to the manifesto pledge which says that we will go on increasing child benefit, and that we will pay it for all the children in the family, and that we will pay it to the woman in the family."

His remarks left Tory MPs speculating that the government is likely to consider taxing the benefit for the first time. They accept that the government would face criticism for imposing "a tax on working mothers".

David Blunkett, Labour's health spokesman, said Mr Portillo's interview confirmed that there was about to be a significant extension of charging within the NHS. "I believe they will move to restrict exemptions and increase the range of services subject to charging. It amounts to a break-up of the NHS as we know it," he said.

Senior ministers voiced alarm at the series of leaks surrounding Mr Portillo's review. One said: "The Treasury clearly wants everyone to see just how serious they are. But what this is all doing for our electoral prospects in Christchurch I dread to think."

The welter of speculation is complicated by an impending cabinet row over this year's annual discussions. Spending departments are already understood to have submitted programmes some £5 billion over next year's agreed targets, and ministers are said to have spurned Mr Portillo's request for cuts. He is set to warn the cabinet next month that without tough action, the budget deficit will spiral out of control. The difficulty for the government is that leaks are making it harder for it to discuss more sensitive areas.

Mr Blunkett told BBC Radio's *The World This Weekend* that Mr Portillo's remarks proved that the Tory party was in a "hell of a mess", adding: "The National Health Service should be available to Margaret Thatcher and Jim Callaghan if they are sick." If benefits were confined to the poor it would inevitably become a poor service.

CORRECTION

Kevin Maxwell is Britain's biggest bankrupt, owing £406 million, and not his brother Ian, as incorrectly reported on May 20.

Queen Mother better

Continued from page 1

full anaesthetic has the Queen Mother, who is 93 in August, reluctantly cancelled one of her many engagements, a church service and reception on Tuesday for holders of the Victoria and George crosses. The Prince of Wales has said he will take his grandmother's place.

She will be returning to London for a Church Army reception at Lambeth Palace on Thursday, less than a week after she was taken to hospital complaining of "a slight tightening of the throat".

The operation was similar to those at the King Edward VII Hospital in London in 1982 to remove a fishbone and at the Aberdeen Infirmary in 1986 to extract a small piece of fish. According to Alan Reid, for the infirmary, the Queen Mother was treated by the regular nursing staff on the third floor medical ward alongside National Health patients. Routine had not been altered and no other treatment had to be cancelled.

"She was in an individual room, like other patients on the ward," he said. "The same bed was filled by an NHS patient shortly after the Queen Mother left." Dr Peter Brunt, the Queen's physician in Scotland, is on the hospital staff and was in charge of the case.

Unions block frigates

SHIPYARD shop stewards have backed a move to prevent any bid to move work on three frigates from crisis-hit Swan Hunter as part of closure.

They agreed unanimously on a resolution calling for the Tyneside yard to be allowed to complete the frigates under construction.

They also said any attempt to take them away to be finished off elsewhere should be resisted by the workforce and, if they were moved, staff at other yards should refuse to work on them.

A meeting at Carlisle, Cumbria, yesterday, was attended by union convenors from all the UK's shipyards apart from Vosper Thornycroft in Southampton — where, it is rumoured, the frigates might be taken.

Swan Hunter went into receivership nine days ago after losing a vital contract for a helicopter carrier which is to be built jointly by VSEL, of Barrow, Cumbria, and the Kvaerner Govan yard on the Clyde.

A total of 420 of the 2,200 workforce will lose their jobs at the end of next week. The rest of the workforce and 4,000 jobs in supply industries will also be in danger unless the yard can be saved.

Political pot-holes litter path of child support reformers

By Jeremy Laurance, health services correspondent

CHILD benefit, introduced 16 years ago, has survived repeated attempts at reform. Successive Chancellors have sought ways of cutting its cost, currently £6 billion a year, but none has found a means of doing so that is both practical and politically acceptable.

Taxing the benefit, now worth £10 a week for the first child and £8.10 for others, is an option apparently left open by the government's manifesto commitment to continue paying it to all families. Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, suggested in an interview on BBC radio in March that taxation, which could raise about £1 billion, was "probably being considered by all parties".

However, taxation presents difficulties which Mr Lilley identified in an earlier BBC interview last November. Although there were attractions to removing a portion of the benefit in tax from millionaires' wives, the independent taxation of men and women had made this extremely difficult, he said. An important principle of child benefit was that it was paid directly to the mother, guaranteeing her an income. "This basic principle would be infringed if you were taxing a benefit which goes to the mother because of the husband's income," Mr Lilley said.

Opponents of taxation also point out that tax starts to bite on people earning about £6,000 a year and, for people in that position, child benefit provides a vital addition to their income. One possibility is to impose the tax only on those in the higher rate band, which takes effect between £20,000 and £30,000 a year.

The success of child benefit, which goes to 98 per cent of families with children, is attributed to its being simple to claim and cheap to administer. By contrast, means-tested benefits are difficult to claim, require complicated forms, are costly to administer and reach in some cases only 50 per cent of those eligible.

Child benefit was never intended to cover even the minimum cost of a child, but its value has been eroded since it was introduced. If it had increased in line with earnings, it would be worth £14 a child. Most European countries pay child benefit but payments tend to be higher for larger families than in Britain.

Linking benefit to the age of children has been proposed as a means of making savings. Concentrating benefits on the under-fives would help parents in the early years when it is most difficult for both to go out to work.

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Public sector pay, page 40

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Row over sextuplets may halt NHS help for single women

By Jeremy Laurance
Health Services Correspondent

■ Science has no more generous gift than that of children for infertile couples. Should such a godsend be available to all?

TREATMENT of infertility for single women under the NHS was under threat last night after the mother of Britain's newest sextuplets disclosed that she was unmarried and living apart from their father.

A dispute broke out immediately among ministers and doctors over who should qualify for health service treatment. The health department said it would examine the practice followed by NHS clinics after it emerged that the father, Jan Vince, 36, has three children by a former marriage as well as a six-year-old boy by the mother of the sextuplets, Jean Gibbins, 29.

Tim Yeo, junior health minister, said that the use of NHS funds for the treatment of infertility in unmarried women was inappropriate and criticised the Grimsby hospital that treated Ms Gibbins.

"I don't rule out treatment for unmarried women, but extreme care should be taken before it is offered," he said. "In this case the evidence is that not much care was taken at all. In the light of all the other demands oo the NHS, I think the use of funds for this purpose should only be considered in exceptional circumstances."

Couples who already had one child but had experienced difficulty having another should be considered for NHS treatment, he said.

Grimsby General Hospital, which treated Ms Gibbins with drugs to stimulate ovulation, was criticised yesterday for allowing the multiple pregnancy to develop. Professor Robert Winston, director of the NHS infertility clinic at Hammersmith Hospital in London, said that, with regular monitoring by ultrasound, the pregnancy could have been averted.

"Multiple births of this order are a disaster," he said. "If you have proper monitoring, you can detect the number of eggs before conception. If you see more than three egg-producing follicles developing in the ovaries, you should abandon treatment."

Professor Winston defended the treatment of single women and said Mr Yeo was being too hard-line. "It is perfectly proper to treat unmarried women, because a very substantial proportion of couples live together without getting married," he said.

The cost of drug treatment for infertility is £300 to £400 per cycle, about the same as a simple operation, but the cost of the mistake which led to the birth of sextuplets would be astronomical, he said.

Ms Gibbins told the *News of the World* yesterday that although she lived separately from Mr Vince, her boyfriend of seven years, they spent up to four nights a week together. Mr Vince, who has now fathered ten children, has a house in Grimsby about three miles from Ms Gibbins, who lives with her father.

The couple said they had planned for two and half years to get married but had never got round to it. Their publicity agents, the Ettinger brothers of Liverpool, who have cornered the market in sextuplets, representing Britain's two other sets, are hoping that they tie the knot soon. Otherwise, the family drama may appear too tarnished to attract sponsors and advertisers who are being sought to contribute to the cost of raising each child.

Managers at the Grimsby Hospital were not available for comment last night. In a statement, the hospital said that 200 patients with fertility problems were seen each month, but only a small percentage were treated.

Letters, page 17

GAVAN PAWSON

Captive audience: water babies watch Leonie Wilson, of Shapeley Water Gardens, of Cheshire, making last-minute preparations for the Chelsea Flower Show, which opens to Royal Horticultural Society members tomorrow.

Gardeners faced with the ravages of gnome thieves, goldfish poachers and turf strippers should take a leaf from nature's own form of protection, according to Scotland Yard (Stewart Tendler writes). Chinese jujube, creeping juniper and the giant rhubarb are among a 13 shrubs and plants suggested by the Yard at this year's show. Another recommendation is golden bamboo, *Phyllostachys aurea*, which is less invasive than other bamboos and grows to 12ft, to form thick clumps, while the shrub rose Faru Dagmar Hastrup gives good ground cover and has a very thorny stem.

The list has been produced after research by the Consumers' Association and the police into garden crime. A survey by the association showed that one in 20 of the 6,000 who responded had suffered losses in the past two years, and the average value of each theft was £130.

☐ Thousands of students and schoolchildren will sneeze their way to poorer examination results because mild winters and early springs have caused the earlier onset of the hayfever season, Professor Robert Davies, chairman of the British Allergy Foundation, said yesterday at the launch of National Hayfever Week.

Flower show, page 18

Archbishop admits mistake over child abuse priest

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

THE Roman Catholic Archbishop of Birmingham has admitted that the church should have acted sooner when parents complained that a priest had sexually abused children.

The Most Rev Maurice Couve de Murville said that when parishioners complained about Fr Samuel Penney in 1991, the church did not consider bringing in police or social services because the complainants "specifically asked us not to prosecute and not to go to the police".

The archbishop was speaking last night on *Everyman* on BBC1, which disclosed that two families whose children were abused were planning to start legal proceedings against him for alleged negligence.

The archbishop said: "Looking back on it, I think we made a mistake. I think we should have referred him to the police much earlier." In fact, Fr Penney was prosecuted after families complained to the police.

The archbishop said the first time the diocese was aware of any sexual abuse was in July 1991, when Fr Penney was taken off his duties as a priest. *Everyman* claimed, however, that Fr Penney was questioned by Catholic authorities after he was arrested for molesting a 14-year-old boy in 1986. Mgr Couve de Murville said: "We talked to him, as we had done in the first case ... but I am afraid Sam Penney is rather a master of deceit. We've discovered subsequently that not only did he deceive many parents, but he deceived the church."

Three families were involved in the initial prosecution at Warwick Crown Court in March this year, and two of them are planning to sue the archbishop.

At Warwick Crown Court, Fr Penney admitted ten charges of indecent assault against seven boys and girls aged between seven and 16 and is serving a jail sentence of seven and a half years.

The identities of some members of the families, who spoke out openly for the first time, were protected on last night's programme. One mother said Fr Penney attempted to molest her 14-year-old son in November 1984. Mgr Couve de Murville arranged for her and the boy's father to see Mgr Daniel Leonard, the Vicar General.

The mother, from Malvern, said: "Leonard seemed to have prior knowledge of Penney's activities. He took notes. He was very quiet. He didn't seem surprised in any way ... Towards the end of the conversation I said: 'This has happened before, hasn't it?' to which he replied: 'Yes'." Within two days Fr Penney was moved from the parish.

Couve de Murville: "We talked to him"

BBC sends managers to business school

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

THE BBC is to send its senior managers back to college to study for an MA in business administration at a cost of at least £8,000 a year each. The part-time courses are expected to last two to three years.

The move is part of John Birt's blueprint for the corporation, designed to "enhance management skill within a creative institution in the public sector" and to create a fast-track management promotion stream within the BBC.

The director-general's initiative will bring the BBC in line with management training schemes already operated by companies such as British Telecom, Rolls-Royce and British Steel.

Several of Britain's leading management schools were invited earlier this month to present details of a tailor-made course for the corporation. The three front-runners are Manchester Business School, Bradford University and Warwick University.

Details of the "winning" course will be announced in the next few weeks. The BBC MBA is expected to consist of a two to three-year part-time course, involving a combination of residential study and distance learning. Fees at the three business schools range from £4,500 a year at Manchester to £8,000 at Bradford.

A management consultant said that it was high time that the BBC had its own MBA. "They are looking for ways to improve managerial knowledge and the competence for the people who are going to have to herald in the process of slimming down the BBC's corporate structure," he said.

Tony Lennon, president of the broadcasting unioo Bectu, said it was worried that the courses would divert vital resources away from the corporation at a time when training in broadcasting technical and craft skills was declining.

Mr Lennon said he hoped there would now be a renewed commitment to training for all staff. "The BBC is about to start charging trainees £7,000, to learn how to be make-up assistants, whereas before that kind of training was free. We hope they will oot overlook other ranks just to concentrate on training up senior managers," he said.

Rape gang abducts victim in busy street

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

A WOMAN was abducted in daylight from a busy London street by three men who beat her unconscious and raped her, Scotland Yard said yesterday.

The victim, a 31-year-old mother, regained consciousness in a churchyard. Her attackers had punched her about the head and scratched her abdomen with a knife.

Last night, she was still too distressed to give police many details about the attack. The men dragged her into a car at knifepoint as she waited at a bus stop in Holloway Road, north London, on Saturday evening. She was going home after a shopping trip.

Det Insp Colin Sutton, leading the investigation, said: "It is a brutal rape and further aggravated by the fact that she was just minding her own business in the street."

There was no suggestion of her having any link with the men. Mr Suttoo said: "All the information I have points to a random attack and she unfortunately just happened to be there."

Police hope to interview the woman today. They have appealed for witnesses and begun house-to-house enquiries. Mr Sutton said someone must have seen the abduction. The woman is white and her attackers were black.

The woman was waiting at the bus stop, near a main junction and a large bingo hall, at about 7.30pm. A black car carrying three men pulled up and two got out. One produced a knife and they dragged her into the back seat where they beat her about the head as the driver set off. She passed out, regaining consciousness in the churchyard of St Luke's church, about a mile away.

She got help from a flat near by and was taken to hospital for treatment. Her husband was at home with the children waiting for her to return. The men had stolen £70 from her.

Police arrest 50 at Twyford Down sit-in

By John Young

MORE than 50 people were arrested and charged with obstruction early yesterday after a five-hour protest at the site of the M3 extension across Twyford Down, near Winchester.

Police in helmets and boiler suits were ordered to climb a 30ft-high bridge when dozens of demonstrators refused to come down.

About 200 people, who call themselves members of the Dongas tribe, had stormed the site shortly before a main road was closed to allow construction work to begin. They broke down razor-wire fences and pushed past police and guards to climb onto the bridge. After the last demonstrator, who had chained himself in place, was moved, the 75-yard-long steel bridge was pushed into place.

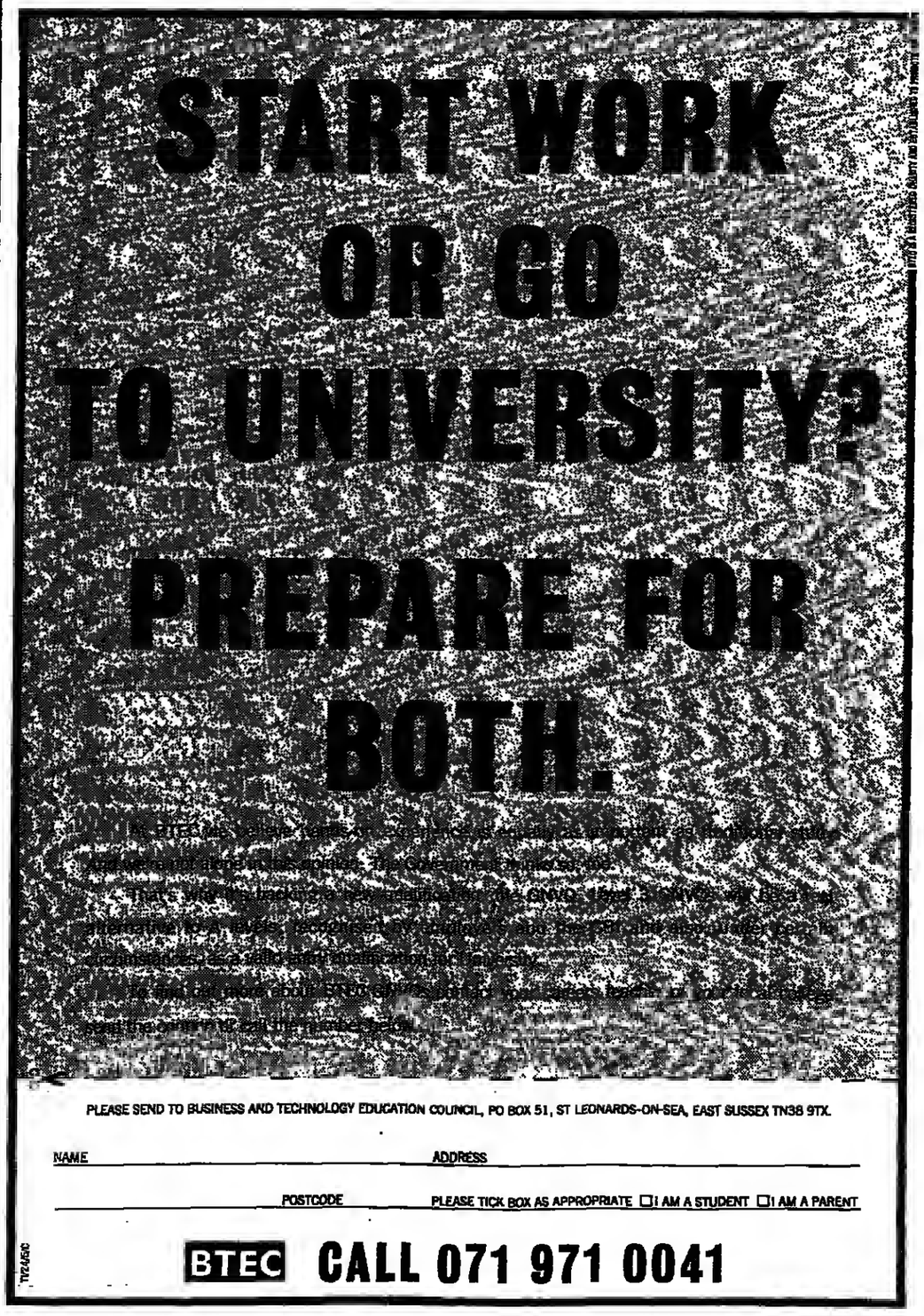
The Dongas take their name from the Celtic word for the sunken tracks used by drovers to take their cattle to market in Winchester. Mainly itinerant squatters, they have mounted a series of demonstrations on the site in recent months. The discovery of human skeletons and cremation urns have added weight to the belief that Twyford Down, a designated area of outstanding natural beauty, was an important ancient settlement. It is also a contender for the site of Camelot.

John Wright, Hampshire assistant chief constable, who led the police operation, said: "We had to take action. The A33 was closed to allow work to be carried out, and we were determined that it should take place. If we had not taken action, these people would have returned to the site again and again."

One demonstrator was hurt when apparently struck by a tractor, and was taken to hospital with suspected pelvic injuries. All those arrested were later released on bail and will appear before Winchester magistrates at a later date.

Yesterday afternoon some 20 members of the so-called "tribe" were entertained to tea and sandwiches at Winchester college, where they met the headmaster, members of staff and pupils. "We wanted to exchange views and to understand each other," a spokesman, Raga Woods, said. "It was very successful."

Photograph, page 20



Sun sets on wolf's whistle-stop tour

By Ian Murray

Hamley: red-head who stays out of *The Sun*

THE Cardiff teenager jailed for contempt of court last week after he wolf-whistled at a red-haired woman juror spent a frustrating day yesterday touring South Wales in an attempt to find her.

On Saturday Paul Powell, 19, was released on bail by the High Court after serving 24 hours of the 14-day sentence imposed by Judge Kilfoil. He will have to appear at the Royal Courts of Justice on Thursday, when his lawyers will ask judges to quash the rest of the sentence.

His legal fees are being paid by *The Sun*, which in return wanted him to pose with Alexa Hamley, 22, the receptionist from Maesteg, Mid Glamorgan, whose looks inspired him to whistle.

However, Miss Hamley has been signed up by the *Mirror* group. A photograph of her wearing black underwear appeared on page 3 of the *Sunday Mirror* and she told the paper that she liked being whistled at.

Local reporters were told that she was ready to go to London on Thursday to plead for Mr Powell's release. "I feel sorry for Paul and his family," she said. But when Mr Powell rang to try to arrange a photograph session with *The Sun*, she was rushed away by men from the *Mirror*.

"It's been terrible all day," her father, David Hamley, said later. "*The Sun* are driving him all over the place looking for her and have even been following me around trying to find out where she is.

"She rang me from a hotel and said she had no intention now of going to London to give evidence unless she was subpoenaed."

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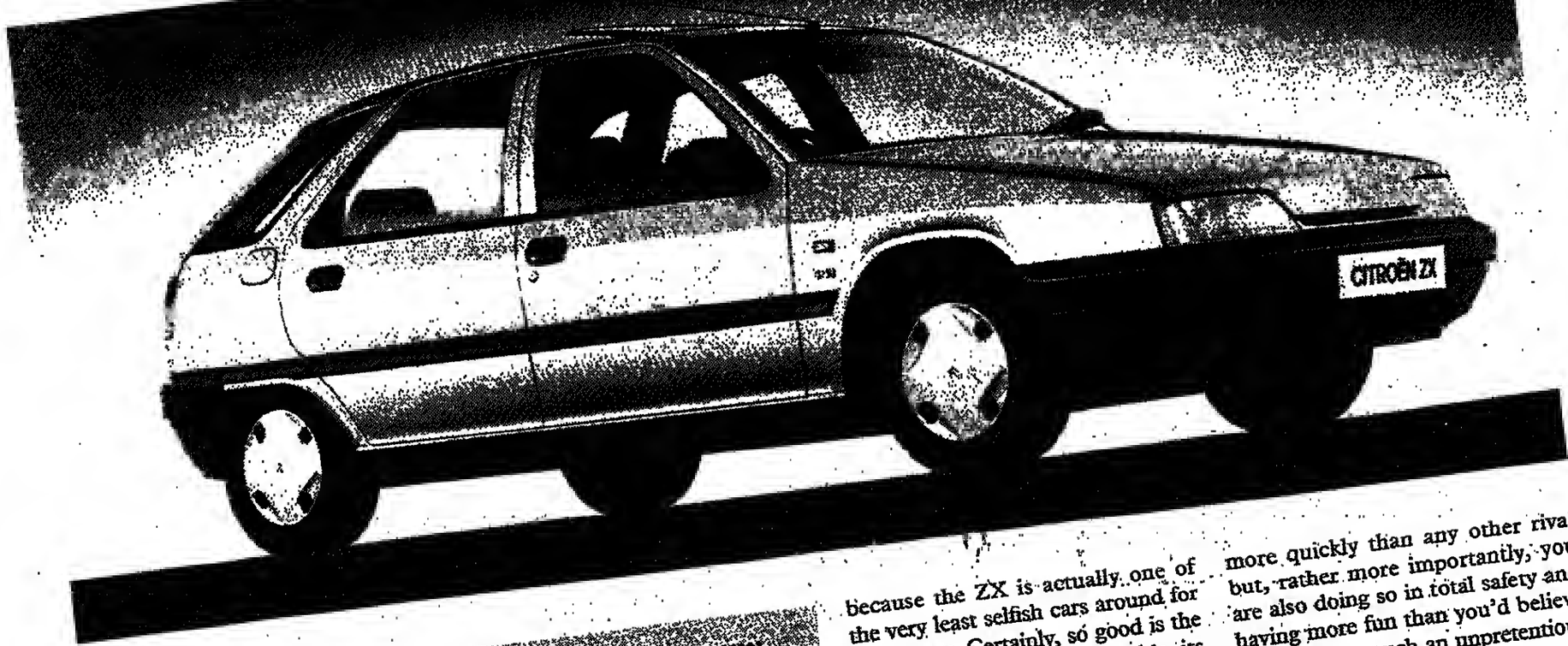

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Overheard: merchant bankers, company directors, politicians and police drugs squad officers

Scanners comb airwaves for crucial information

By Jamie Dettmer

■ Mobile telephone airwaves are insecure and loose talk on them is threatening national and personal security

MERCHANT bankers do it, police do it, even educated politicians do it; and they seem incapable of stopping. Despite warnings last year — the interceptions of highly sensitive mobile telephone conversations involving the Prince and Princess of Wales — cellular telephone users continue to compromise their security by disclosing information that could lead to blackmail, fraud and even assassination attempts.

For less than the cost of a mobile telephone, amateur eavesdroppers, professional criminals, potential blackmailers and terrorists can, and are, equipping themselves with cheap scanners capable of — illegally — locking into cellular phone calls.

The scanners, which are widely available in electrical stores for as little as £99, can rapidly scan the cellular frequencies until an important or sensitive call is found.

Calls overheard by a scanner in the last week and studied at *The Times* included:

Prince: interception was warning to others

a long conversation between merchant bankers helping with the forthcoming £1.3 billion ICI demerger share issue; a company chairman organising an assignation with his mistress while travelling home to his wife in Surrey; two company directors discussing a firm they want to buy; a Conservative MP saying clearly at what time he would arrive later in the day at Brooks's club in central London; another Tory MP discussing private commercial business before attending a Commons session; two Welsh Labour politicians plotting their strategy for the forthcoming Welsh Labour party conference; and a discussion between two members of Scotland Yard's drugs squad about named dealers in heroin and crack.

Vodafone and Cellnet, the cellular network operators, dismiss the chances of sensitive calls being intercepted at random as "remote". William Ostrom, Cellnet's head of public relations, argues that a distinction must be drawn between chance eavesdropping, where little damaging information is likely to be picked up, and directing scanners at a particular individual, which is difficult.

The Police Federation last Thursday rejected such claims and joined a growing call for legislation to control the sale, possession and use of scanners. At their annual conference in Blackpool, federation delegates were told that criminals were using the scanners increasingly to monitor police radio messages and cellular phone conversations. Inspector Robin Penn, from Surrey, said: "No one can escape scanners, including the royal family."

From the haughty to the naughty, cellular phone users fail to appreciate that the system they are using is insecure and can easily be monitored. And despite Police Federation fears, police officers are often the worst culprits, being prepared to say things they never would on police radio channels.

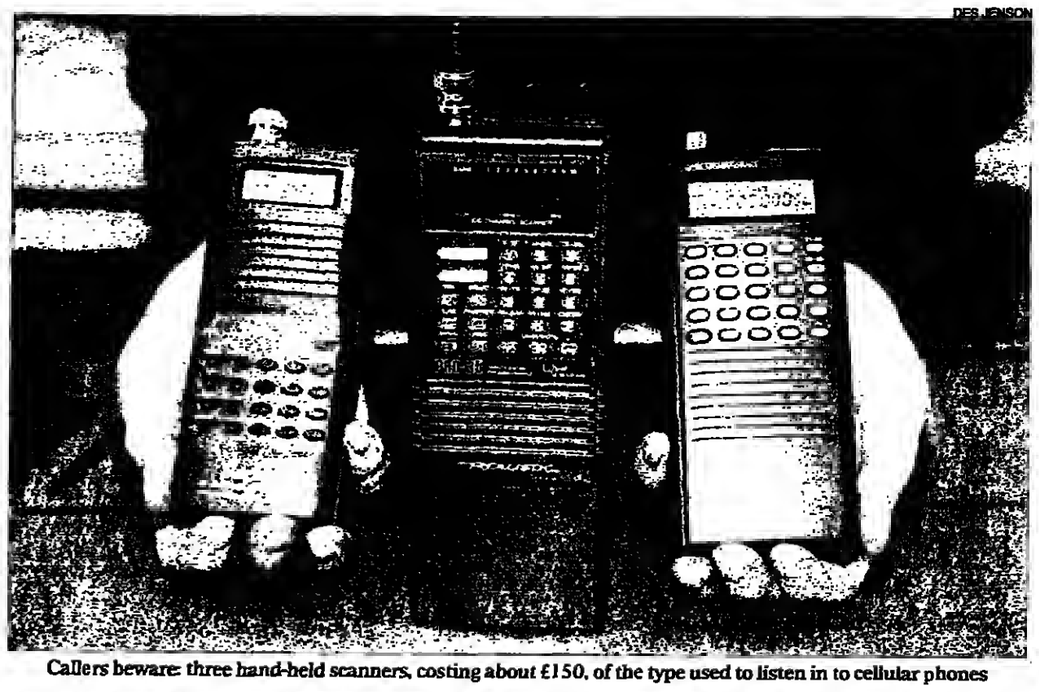
Vodafone and Cellnet insist that, as cellular calls roam across the frequency designated for the mobile telephone system, it is almost impossible for scanners to remain on one call for long. But most of the intercepted conversations *The Times* has heard are more than just snatches: the call between the drugs officers lasts for more than 15 minutes.

The Times has also heard officers talking on their mobile phones while staking out a named address in west London. By contrast, criminals seem far more discreet when on mobile phones. Drugs dealers monitored last week on the airwaves gave little away. A deal involving stolen cheque books and guarantee cards between a fence and a thief was couched for the most part in what appeared to be a personal code.

Members of the public also seem blithely unaware of the risks they are running: dozens of intercepted calls studied by *The Times* include people giving out to hotels, travel agents, and even escort agencies their credit card details — including the number, billing address and expiry date — thereby exposing themselves to credit card fraud. The potential for blackmail is also high. Calls monitored randomly last week using a Realistic Pro-43 Hyperscan, price £249, included several to escort agencies or adult cootact lines. Names, addresses and telephone numbers were mentioned. A northern businessman included credit card details, home address and the kind of sexual practice he desired.

Chris Webb, the press officer of the Federation of Communication Services, an association of mobile phone operators and suppliers, said: "In extreme cases, or with highly sensitive calls, you would be well advised to think about whether you should use a cellular phone."

DES JENSON



Callers beware: three hand-held scanners, costing about £150, of the type used to listen in to cellular phones

Rogues scramble for new equipment

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

A NEW kind of telephone surveillance equipment that allows eavedroppers not only to listen to mobile phone conversations but also to identify the caller's number is now circulating in Britain.

Its development is worrying responsible members of the security equipment industry, who claim that the technology is being used by blackmailers and unscrupulous journalists for dubious ends.

Unlike the telephone scanner already in high street stores, the new equipment is a mirror image of the technology used by the cellular phone companies to link calls and identify a phone for billing.

Conventional scanners are limited in their usefulness, since the caller's identity will remain a mystery unless their voice is known to the eavesdropper or they identify themselves on air.

The new equipment, however, can pick up the serial codes and phone numbers sent by a mobile handset to the cell phoue network. It will then display on a screen the frequency at which the phone is operating, so that the eavesdropper can tune in.

David Benn, managing director of Lorraine Electronics, of east London, which is one of the country's leading surveillance equipment firms, is refusing to stock the new kit, which will fit into a briefcase. He said: "We were offered this equipment but declined to market it because it is unwarranted intrusion into someone's privacy."

The system, which is driven by a notebook computer, can be programmed to lock on to a mobile phone's aerial, even when the handset is not being used and is on standby. Then, when the user makes a call, the system will alert the eavesdropper that the number is being used.

Mobile phones operate on more than a thousand different frequencies and, as the phooe moves down a road, the network transfers the call to a new aerial or cell. This means that conventional scanners cannot follow a conversation for long and that disconnections are frequent.

But the new equipment, costing around £1,700, can anticipate the next frequency seconds before the transfer, allowing the system to remain locked on the target conversation.

A new mobile phone network, called GSM, allows subscribers to make calls in any country. The system, which is starting to roll out across Europe, allows someone with the right handset to make mobile calls in any country, using the latest digital technology to scramble calls. The cell phone companies claim that it is impregnable. But Mr Benn said: "GSM is safe at the moment but people are already working on ways of cracking it."

How careless talk could cost lives

Continued from page 1

specific warnings not to mention travel arrangements.

Other calls picked up in the past few days produced more information of interest to terrorists, blackmailers and fraudsters, including the exact time a Conservative MP was due to arrive at Brook's club in central London last Tuesday evening and a lengthy discussion between a couple of merchant bankers helping with the forthcoming £1.3 billion ICI demerger share issue.

Deliberate and unauthorised interception of telephone calls is illegal under the 1949 Wireless Telegraphy Act, the 1984 Telecommunications Act, the 1985 Interception of Communications Act, and the 1990 Broadcasting Act.

Ownership of a scanner — more than 30,000 are believed to have been sold in recent years — without a secretary of state's licence may not be illegal, but it is likely to be so if it used or possessed with a view to obtaining information about other people's conversations. Eavesdropping on calls under the Interception of Communications Act can result in unlimited fines and/or two years in prison.

But this highly technical area of law is not clear, and the prosecution would have to establish that the person using a scanner had locked on to a call and listened to what was said. How long the eavesdropper then lingered on a call would also be critical.

Few electronics experts believe that a ban on the sale of scanners would be effective since they can easily be obtained overseas. The Federation of Communication Services, an association of cellular service operators and suppliers, argues that mobile phone users just need to take more care about what they say.

Vodaphone, a network supplier, believes that its new service, GSM, which converts speech into digital pulses, will be far more secure. Electronic experts question Vodaphone's confidence in GSM, however, and believe that technology able to decode the digital pulses will soon be developed.

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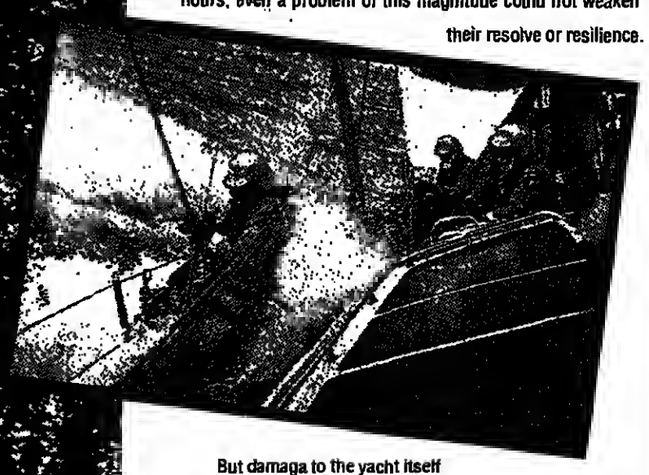

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Longer jail terms 'more efficient' than extra police

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

■ Crime policies are not working, an economic analysis argues. There is no sign that privatisation will be any better

TOUGHER prison sentences, insurance discounts and cuts in VAT for crime prevention measures could do more to cut crime than increasing police numbers or neighbourhood watches, according to a highly critical analysis of crime policy published today.

Dr David Pyle, senior economics lecturer, argues that the criminal justice policies of the past decade have failed. Neighbourhood watches, electronic tagging and increasing police manpower have not worked. There is no sign that privatisation will do any better, he says.

The report is published as two crime initiatives begin. One is a government crime prevention "brains trust" that will include Nick Ross, the BBC television broadcaster. The other is an international conference on the global threat of organised crime, at the police national staff college in Hampshire.

Dr Pyle's report, published by the European Policy Forum and Social Market Foundation, attacks many of the totems of government crime policy. He points out that between 1979 and 1992, the number of people in prison increased by 8 per cent and police manpower by 12 per cent, yet recorded crime rose by 112 per cent.

Dr Pyle, a former Home Office economist, says that appointing extra police officers is expensive and ineffective. To reduce property crime by 1 per cent might require an increase in manpower costing £51 million. To achieve a similar reduction by sending more offenders to prison would cost £4.9 million, or £3.6 million if average prison sentences were lengthened.

He argues that increasing police numbers is not cost-effective against property crime because many crimes are not directly deterred by extra police patrols. Increased numbers would be an effective deterrent only if they increased the detection rate.

In some areas where neighbourhood watch schemes were introduced, crime had risen. In several schemes examined, there was evidence of a lack of interest by members. Few attended meetings, suspicious sightings were not reported and only a small percentage put security marks on their property.

Ross: will sit on "brains trust" to fight crime

The report says that the case for privatisation is not yet proven. Dr Pyle argues that there may be dangers in placing too much reliance on the private sector because people might not pay or subscribe. The best results still come from compulsory public subscription.

Announcing the government's brains trust yesterday, Michael Jack, Home Office minister, said that Mr Ross, who presents *Crimewatch UK*, would give the group "street cred". He said that the board, including police and businessmen, would produce creative, innovative and practical ideas to prevent crime.

The conference at Bramshill, Hampshire, will play host to 100 of the world's leading investigators, examining gangs ranging from the Triads and the Mafia to Hell's Angels, who police believe have now become highly organised internationally.

Arresting outfit: PC Jackie Wilkes eyes up the unlikely uniform of the future, modelled by Suzie Louvens in London. The outfit was designed by James England, 21, from Doncaster, for the Nescafé Clubwear Design Competition

Unionists demand return of internment

By Edward Gorman
Ireland Correspondent

UNIONIST politicians demanded the return of internment yesterday, after the IRA's third big bombing since Thursday's local elections. A car bomb in south Belfast early yesterday injured 27 people and caused damage costing millions of pounds.

John Taylor, Ulster Unionist MP for Strangford, said that Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland secretary, should launch a change in policy to head off the IRA. He called for the introduction of compulsory identity cards, for the sealing of the border with the Irish Republic and for the re-introduction of internment.

Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist party leader, whose candidates did unexpectedly well in the elections, predicted that the IRA onslaught would continue. "This is a well-planned thing and I think it will go on for maybe another fortnight," he said.

The IRA's third attack in three days took place at about 1.30am yesterday when a medium-sized car bomb devastated the Drumkeen Hotel and damaged about 50 nearby homes, some of which were still being repaired after a similar blast in December. Yesterday's attack followed a huge explosion in central Portadown, co. Armargh, on Saturday when a 1,000lb bomb in a van ripped through shops and offices, causing extensive damage and injuring six people, including two police officers. One suffered serious leg injuries. The previous day, a bomb in the centre of Belfast injured 21 people and wrecked the Grand Opera House, the Europa Hotel and many other buildings near by.

The latest onslaught follows a familiar pattern. The IRA usually halts its operations before an election to help Sinn Fein's electoral prospects. After the vote, it is always quick to dispel any impression that it might have toned down its efforts permanently.

Sinn Fein achieved the highest first-preference votes of any party in Belfast and increased its share of the vote in the province from 11.3 per cent in 1989 to 12.5 per cent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

High Court challenge on Bentley

Iris Bentley, 60, is to ask the High Court today for a ruling that Kenneth Clarke, home secretary, should have given a posthumous pardon to her brother, Derek Bentley.

Bentley, a mentally retarded epileptic, was hanged in 1953 for his part in the murder of a policeman.

David Pannick QC will claim that Mr Clarke was wrong to decide that a pardon depended on whether Bentley was "morally and technically innocent".

MP improving

Sir Nicholas Fairbairn, 59, the Perth and Kinross MP, was said to be improving in an Edinburgh hospital where he is suffering from a gastro-intestinal complaint.

Murder charge

A 40-year-old woman will appear in court at Wakefield, West Yorkshire, today accused of murdering John Lockwood, 65, a retired miner.

Ear lost

Police at Southampton kept an ear in their fridge after it was bitten off in a pub fight — but the owner reclaimed it too late to have it sewn back.

Cliff rescue

A helicopter rescued three men trapped on a cliff ledge at Capel le Ferne, Kent. Two had fallen 80ft and the third had tried to rescue them.

Sow's shifts

A farmer at Melbourne near York is having to arrange feeding shifts for a sow with 33 piglets which has too few teats to suckle them all at once.

Flats blaze

Nine elderly people were rescued after an arsonist set fire to a block of flats in Brighouse, West Yorkshire.

Bond winners

Winners in the Premium Bond weekly draw are: £100,000, 14XP 766202, winner from Renfrewshire (value of holding £5,170); £50,000, 15CW 963131, Cornwall (£9,800); £25,000, 7LT 315684, Cardiff, £39.

Waldegrave's shake-up of science faces rough ride

By Nigel Hawkes, Science Editor

THE biggest shake-up for British science in 20 years is expected this week with the publication of the long-awaited white paper on science and technology.

William Waldegrave, the science minister, must persuade his critics that the government is genuinely committed to science, even though it has no more money to spend on it. Since many of those critics think a shortage of money is the real problem, that could prove a tough challenge.

The temptation will be to look vigorous by an energetic shifting of furniture: the reorganisation of research councils, the abolition of two advisory committees, and a fresh emphasis on wealth creation through science. If that is combined with greater power of decision over science in ministers' hands, Mr Waldegrave could be in for a rough ride.

The most likely victim of the white paper is the Advisory Board for the Research Councils, an independent body of scientists that determines how science money is split between the research councils. If the Whitehall jungle drums are believed, the board and the Advisory Council on Science and Technology will go.

The Science and Engineering Research Council (Serc), the biggest of the five, could also face dismemberment. The suggestion is that it be divided, one part responsible for astronomy and particle physics (big science), the other for the rest of physics, chemistry and engineering, with an emphasis on wealth creation.

Biological science supported by Serc would be moved to the Agricultural and Food Research Council to form a Biotechnology Research Council. The white paper is also likely to prescribe changes in the management of research councils. The Medical Research Council, run by a chief executive, Dr David Rees, but chaired by a prominent businessman, Sir David Plastow, is to be used as a model.

To Mr Waldegrave's critics, such as the pressure group Save British Science, much of that would smack of change for change's sake. In a pre-emptive strike, the group issues today its own "white paper", which says: "When no real evidence is brought forward to justify the upheaval of change, there is much to be said in favour of stability."

In the group's view, what matters is the level of scientific support. Since 1986-7, it says that has fallen from £5.69 billion to £4.72 billion, while that of all other developed countries has risen. If the UK had followed the trend of the rest of the G7 countries, we would now be spending nearly £2 billion a year more.

Other important elements in the white paper will be the introduction of a "research foresight" system to attempt to identify key technologies, and a new policy-making body, possibly chaired by Mr Waldegrave himself.

Among research workers, however, more attention will be paid to what Mr Waldegrave says about careers and jobs. Most frontline research these days is done by young scientists on short-term contracts, paid little and with poor prospects of a tenured university job. The result, says an editorial in *Nature*, "is the flight of young people to occupations other than science".

Firms clean up by tackling pollution

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

INDUSTRY could save up to two billion pounds a year while dramatically reducing pollution by adopting simple waste-saving schemes, a government-backed study in Yorkshire indicates.

The findings, which come from a project involving 11 industries on the rivers Aire and Calder, challenge the belief that going green is a luxury that firms can ill afford. The £300,000 project shows that firms using consultants for a detailed scrutiny of their operations can identify many opportunities to conserve and recycle resources, particularly water.

British Rail's depot at Neville Hill, Leeds, has found more than 40 improvements, with annual savings of up to £100,000. These include reductions in detergents used to clean trains and changes in the way they are fuelled, to minimise spillages. Many firms are delighted at the savings, as they are charged by the water companies for the water they use and for any pollution.

One of the biggest savings is expected at one of Europe's most advanced drinks factories. Staff at Coca Cola's plant at Wakefield discovered a wobbly conveyor belt that was causing some of the products to fall off. Coca Cola has now implemented more than 200 waste-saving schemes, which are expected to save £1.6 million a year.

Dr Neil Johnston, of the Centre for the Exploitation of Science and Technology (Cest), said: "This represents about a third of 1 per cent of the factory's turnover. This may not sound a lot but if you multiplied this across British industry, it is a huge potential." There are no figures for industrial turnover but a close approximation is the nation's gross domestic product, which is about £600 billion. A saving of a third of 1 per cent would equal £2 billion.

Gardeners balk at guns and roses

By Tim Jones

THE tranquillity of the Gardens of the Roses, of which the Queen Mother is patron, is being threatened by proposals to develop a clay pigeon shoot on nearby green belt land, a public enquiry will be told tomorrow.

Ken Grapes, secretary of the Royal National Rose Society at Chiswellgreen, St Albans, Hertfordshire, said: "We are under no illusion that if this development is allowed it would be tantamount to destroying the gardens." The society, which is confident of controlling pests and is close to developing a disease-resistant rose, fears it will have no defence against the noise and traffic congestion that a shoot could attract.

At tomorrow's hearing, Thaker Properties, whose original planning application was refused, is expected to argue that the blast of shotguns will not be heard by the 60,000 people who visit the gardens each year.

The society, a charity that is the world's oldest and biggest specialist plant body, grows more than 30,000 named roses on 12 acres. It has recently launched a £2 million appeal to secure extra space to conserve all the important roses of the past, present and future. Part of its work is to preserve very rare varieties to determine whether they can be developed.

Doing porridge? Try making mozzarella

By Richard Ford
Home Correspondent

AN ITALIAN entrepreneur is to manufacture mozzarella cheese behind the walls of an English jail in the latest example of the enterprise culture in the prison system.

Edgardo Pasquali is importing a cheesemaker from Parma in northern Italy to teach women prisoners at East Sutton Park in Kent the secrets of making one of the key ingredients of pizza.

The Mamma Mia mozzarella venture is a joint project between the prison service and Signor Pasquali and is part of a drive by the service to provide more interesting work than the traditional mailbag sewing.

At East Sutton Park, near Maidstone, potential cheesemakers are being offered £3 an hour for a 40-hour week. They will pay income tax, national insurance and a contribution to their keep while the rest of the money is saved for their release. Production is expected to start within the next few weeks, after the installation of £80,000 of equipment imported from Italy, using milk from the prison's dairy herd.

Signor Pasquali said: "Mozzarella relies on the quality of the milk and the dairy herd at East Sutton Park produces the highest. To be at its best, mozzarella must be fresh and much of that sold in Britain is several days old."

He added: "You cannot find good quality mozzarella in this country but at East Sutton Park we intend to produce cheese to rival the best in Italy."

Bill Duff, the governor, said: "We will produce and package the cheese and it will be sold on a contractual basis to the company, who will transport it to our customers."

As East Sutton Park prepares to begin cheesemaking, 15 women prisoners at Styal open prison in Cheshire, who make shirts for prison officers, last month boosted production from 200 to 500 garments a week with the introduction of piece work.

Nottingham Trent University has ordered fitted furniture for 200 rooms in halls of residence from workshops at Frankland prison in Durham and Portland, Dorset.

While trying to diversify, the prison service industries, which have sales of more than £30 million a year and employ 6,000 inmates, remain heavily reliant on other public service industries. Mailbags are still made for the Post Office, horse blankets for the army and plimsolls for the defence ministry.

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'If constitutional historians have anything to say about this unique conference, it will be'

Forum that buried a 40-year taboo

The Times/Charter 88 conference broke an ancient silence and was a milestone in constitutional debate, writes ***Matthew d'Ancona***

It was, you might say, the day on which the *annus horribilis* finally ended. After a year of miserable fortune for the monarchy, during which the private life of the royal family became the world's most popular soap opera, hundreds of speakers and guests gathered in Westminster to demand something more: a reasoned, vigorous debate on the future of an institution that remains at the heart of our national life. Whatever their differences, the reformers, abolitionists and monarchists could at least agree that scandal was no longer enough.

Intended to be the most comprehensive forum on the subject of the monarchy since the 17th century, the event was addressed by a glittering array of 90 speakers and reported by journalists from around the world.

But the *Times*/Charter 88 conference was much more than a *coup de théâtre*. It captured a mood of national anxiety about the constitutional arrangements that shape the way we live. It ended a 40-year taboo and forced royalist and roundhead alike to hear each other's case. Opening the debate, Peter Stothard, editor of *The Times*, remarked that the deference and indifference of the past had given way to strongly held opinion on the role of the sovereign. Monarchists could no longer stand aside from the argument.

From the 13 sessions and two plenaries emerged a glorious diversity of opinion and preoccupation, ranging from Charles Moore's pleas for deference, to Billy Bragg's appeal to a radical "Englishness" epitomised by Blake and Paine, to Lady Longford's advice that the church borrow the Roman device of annulment to help its future Supreme Governor out of his marital difficulties.

Touring the Queen Elizabeth II conference centre, it was hard to believe that Martin Amis's confession that he dreams of the Duchess of York could have anything to do with Fay Weldon's demand for secular education or with Jack Straw's critique of the parliamentary rules governing discussion of the sovereign. Yet sooner or later all roads led back to the same embattled institution.

Few shared Jonathan Clark's opinion that disestablishment of the church would imperil the whole constitutional order; but most echoed his belief in the interconnectedness of British institutions and the centrality of the Crown. It seemed impossible to speak of the monarchy without speaking of other things — and vice versa. Talk of the Crown would lead to discussion of Maastricht; and debate on the future of Scotland in the Union led back to the future of the House of Windsor. As Baroness Williams put it in the opening plenary, the monarchy defines "who and what we are". It is culturally omnipresent.

THE TIMES • THE MONARCHY DEBATE

Such a day, however ambitious in scope, cannot provide many answers. There was no vote, no rhetorical civil war from which one side emerged victorious. If constitutional historians have anything to say about this unique conference, it will be that it broke an ancient silence and helped construct a new agenda for debate.

Republicans are used to defending their views in open forum. But for the many royalists, the experience was new and, for most, liberating. Even Sir John Stokes, the former Conservative MP, who described talk of written constitutions as "absolute Tommy-rot", seemed to be enjoying himself.

Anthony Barnett, co-ordinator of Charter 88, the driving force behind the event, said that it was not in any sense an assault on the royal family but a precious opportunity to make constitutional issues in general intelligible. Even Andrew Morton, whose biography of the Princess of Wales triggered last year's tumultuous events, had more to say about the "institutional tide" and the end of the Bagehotian idea of monarchy than about eating disorders.

As the day progressed, republicans and royalists had to concede that perhaps it was not as simple as they first thought. Midway through a marvellously articulate apology for republicanism, Christopher Hitchens had to confess his bitterness as a man of the left that his opinions were still so remote from those of the common man. For their part, the vast majority of monarchists granted that reform was needed. But what exactly? A more representative court? A smaller royal family? Or a "citizen monarch" who swears allegiance to a written constitution?

Oddly, the most common theme throughout the day had nothing to do with the royal family at all. Time and again concern was voiced about the concentration of power in the executive and ministerial use of the Crown prerogative. The mystery of pageantry is one thing; but there is now an evident unease at the mystery of executive power, the ill-defined residue of authority which the government of the day exercises on behalf of the Queen.

That seemed an appropriate keynote for the conference, as the Scott enquiry into the Matrix Churchill affair continues. It showed that lively argument can produce the most unexpected results; that there is much more to the debate on monarchy than a row over pomp and circumstance; and — most gratifying of all — that the debate has only just begun.

Renewing the civil war of words

By John Winder, Nicholas Watt and Kate Alderson

An audience of more than 500 listened to an unprecedented variety of opinions and visions during Saturday's all-day conference, ranging from the fervently republican to the fiercely monarchist.

Introducing the debate, Peter Stothard, editor of *The Times*, said that had he proposed such an event 40 years ago, at the time of the Queen's coronation, he would have been dismissed as a rebel or worse — or just dismissed. There were still people who thought that the conference should oot take place, and they had told him so.

MORI opinion polls showed that an increasing number of people believed that Britain would eventually become a republic. Such statistics were music to the ears of republicans but deeply unsettling to those who believed in the value of the monarchy.

Charles Moore, editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, opened the debate with a powerful argument in defence of the British mooarchy, though not for monarchy in principle. It was wrong to argue for or against systems of government in the abstract, just as h was wrong to argue for universal human rights, he said. He regretted the debate on the grounds that the argument in favour of the monarchy had loog been settled and that digging it up, while interesting, was dangerous.

Those who planned to abolish the monarchy had not considered the practicalities, he said. They had first to demolish what was there and the first attempt to get the "planning permission" for any new constitutional construction would be frustrated at every turn. "There is no consent, in this country, for an alternative form of government and not even a basis to arrive at such a consent. There is danger in destroying what exists and more or less works. Monarchy is an idea for heart as well as for head and no alternative satisfies both so well."

Sue Townsend, author of the novel *The Queen and I*, which imagined the life of the royal family in a republican regime, drew on her recent experience of a council housing estate and expressed alarm at the decline and social problems she had encountered there, which she linked to the class system epitomised by the monarchy. The British had not lost their taste for ceremony, she said, but big football matches, Frank Bruno and the Eurovision song contest meant more to them than the Queen. It was time that the law became sovereign.

Baroness Williams, former Labour minister and founder member of the SDP, said that the monarchy could change and be of great value to the country. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother had been the most successful member of the royal family, displaying an affection for the people that was readily reciprocated.

Since the Act of Settlement, the monarchy and the House of Lords had lost power to the Commons, but the Commons had allowed that power to pass to the executive. Lady Williams condemned the "intolerable intrusion" by the press into the privacy of the royal family, and was cheered when she said that there had to be a limit to that intrusion.

The monarchy had shown that it was capable of responding to change, as it during the transition from Empire to Commonwealth. The Queen should be given credit for the way in which she and her soo had represented the ideals of multi-racialism to an extent that shamed the political class. "It is not the monarchy we should be worried about, but the overweaning power of the state," she said.

Anthony Barnett, co-ordinator of Charter 88, said that the conference was part of a wider debate about the manner in which societies were governed. The end of the Cold War, which had kept many governing institutions in place, had forced a general crisis of confidence, most obviously in Germany and Italy. Britain could no longer afford to ignore the pressure for constitutional reform.

In the discussioo that followed, Arthur Newman suggested that, if the hereditary principle was good, it should be applied to newspaper editors as well as to the sovereign. Mr Moore replied that it was applied in business life and was defensible as a method of transferring authority and wealth in many other contexts.

In the seminar entitled "His or hers — prospects for the royal family", Geoffrey Robertson QC, who was defence counsel in the Matrix Churchill trial, proposed that the Queen should relinquish her role as head of state to avoid being trivialised. He said: "One of the great attractions of separating the monarchy from the actual president, from the head of state, is that it will push the monarch into a sideline and it will no longer be relevant. There will no longer be a public interest in how the monarchy behaves because the monarchy will not have the trappings of public power."

The Countess of Longford, the staunchly royalist biographer, quickly dismissed the idea. "I am fascinated by Geoffrey's suggestion of having both Queen and a president," she said. "But the more I think about it, the more I see it couldn't possibly work. When the electoral college came to appoint the first president, they would obviously appoint the Queen."

The panel, which also included Andrew Morton, the royal author, and Amanda Platell, a director of Mirror Group Newspapers, agreed on the need for reform. Mr Morton, who initiated the whole debate with his biography *Diana — Her True Story*, argued that the limited reforms introduced within the past year were long overdue. "The complacency, the lack of reforms of the last 40 years — and I think that is one of the failures of the reign — have meant they are reforming today from a position of defensiveness."

The seminar also dwelt on the constitutional implications of a divorce between the Prince and Princess of Wales. Mr Robertson said: "The Church of England still has a rule that a divorced person should not be allowed to remarry in the precincts of the church. It will become a crucial problem for the Anglican Church."

The panel disagreed on whether the prince would become king. Lady Longford thought that he was keen to do the job and said that he was well suited. Mr Morton and Ms Platell thought that he lacked the will.

Vernon Bogdanor, reader in government at Brasenose College, Oxford, blamed the press for the royal family's troubles. Speaking from the floor, he said: "I do think the press is partly responsible for the problems of the royal family because it does not report the serious things they are doing but reports the trivia."

Mr Morton replied that quality newspaper had allowed the tabloids to set the tone of royal reporting. "*The Independent* made a great deal of play about the fact that it did no royal coverage whatsoever. So it seems to me that in terms of human interest stories there has been an imbalance and the quality newspapers have effectively allowed the tabloids to maintain the agenda."

Amanda Platell rejected a suggestion from the seminar's chairman, Henry Porter, of *Vanity Fair*, that the tabloids should stop covering the royals. She said: "It is because they have been behaving badly behind closed doors that we have been running these stories. If you look at Margaret Thatcher, she is just as exposed to sexual scandal but it never happened because she behaved herself."

Mr Morton was accused in a separate session of talking baloney and the media of baiting the royals into abdicating. The answer, one speaker suggested, was to privatise royalty with the Princess of Wales being forced to work for a living. She could open a restaurant called Di's Diner.

Yvonne Roberts, writer and journalist, argued that for too long the media had been, and still was, too passive and unquestioning about the monarchy. "We have to get beyond asking how much they cost and on to the serious issue of why they are here and do we

Continued on page 9

MARTIN REDDALL

Referendum call: the playwright David Hare attacked the monarchy and urged a vote on its abolition

Mob fails to take up challenge

Many people want a change in the royal family's role. But, says ***Alan Hamilton****, revolution is no longer on the agenda*

Either the English have forgotten how to conduct a revolution, or they do not really want one anyway. At the great monarchy debate on Saturday there were no demands for the Queen's head on the executioner's block, no rallying cry to the mob to storm the gates of Buckingham Palace without paying their £8 entrance fee. The keys to the tumbrils have been lost.

That may be because serious-minded republicans are not yet convinced of the desirability of an elected president. Lady Longford, an ardent monarchist despite adhering to a religion that debars her from the throne, struck a chord when she reminded her discussion group that candidates for an elected presidency would inevitably be former politicians, and the last thing we wanted as a figurehead of the nation was a retired handbag.

Republicans have therefore dreamed up a compromise, the concept of a Citizen Monarch, stripped of all vestiges of power and most of the flummery of state, but permitted to welcome foreign dignitaries and perhaps open the occasional nursery school. Citizen Charles may be getting the hang of that notion already, with his well documented concern for other people's back yards.

Sue Townsend, in her recent cheeky fantasy, had a deposed royal family living as dispossessed citizens on a squalid Midlands housing estate. As a pro-republican speaker on Saturday, however, she was an unconvincing advocate of the premise that the working class, tired of living at the base of the social pyramid, want to abolish the apex. Traditionally the British monarchy's most trusty supporters have been the aristocracy and the proletariat: it's the people in between that want change.

On Saturday, the day went to the in-betweens, the chattering classes of north London and the Home Counties in whose massed presence the hind legs of donkeys are at grave risk. Their more articulate spokespersons, including Baroness Williams and Professor Stephen Haseler, got to the nub of the monarchical argument. And the nub was this. Desire for change does not so much spring from dissatisfaction with Elizabeth II, about whom quite kind things were said, or with her wayward children, with whom there was some sympathy for the tabloid intrusions into their private lives. It springs rather from the increasingly overweaning executive arm of government, its seemingly endless quest for more power, more secrecy, and less public accountability. The crown, a naturally secretive institution, is guilty by association.

What present-day reformers really want is a written constitution, with the citizen's rights and obligations clearly stated, and to have it available like the Highway Code, for not more than £1. But how to stir the lumpen masses? Best ask an Irishman.

The poet and critic Tom Paulin scoffed at some worthy but woolly speakers in his seminar who talked of "taking power over our own lives" without having the faintest idea of how to do so. "You might as well be discussing UFOs," he said. "How do we do it? Just look at Australia. They're doing it. They have a written constitution. That's how to do it. You need to engineer a situation where the royal prerogative is used, as it was to sack Gough Whitlam's government in Australia, to show people that this country is not a democracy. Republicanism is a vote loser at the moment; you might as well vote for Michael Foot as leader of the Labour party."

Victoria: ideal of the monarchy

What the cause needed, Paulin ventured, was a latter-day poet of the stature of that old republican Milton. Republicanism was in many ways a right-wing philosophy; even Milton wrote about the free market. "Oh," enquired a querulous member of the audience. "Where?". "*Areopagitica*," replied Paulin. "Hmph," countered the questioner. "A rather free interpretation of that work."

In another seminar the novelist Ian MacEwan was suggesting that a brief window of opportunity presented itself to reform the monarchy, before the mists closed in again and it recovered its popularity. "If the Queen does not have much power, let us at least write down that 'not much power'," he said.

Writing down people's rights is a fat lot of good by itself, Charles Moore, editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, warned the assembly. The Soviet Union had had a written constitution defining the rights of its people, and much good did it do them.

Amid such a welter of intellectual debate, it may have been of some significance that perhaps the best attended seminar of the day was that addressed by, among others, Andrew Morton, the author who blew the whistle on the royal marriage. Even the chattering classes are not above straining an ear for a bit of scandal.

Elsewhere another speaker was calling for a new Disraeli to find the Queen a role in Europe, much as the original had created his monarch Empress of India.

Finally that old patrician and unashamed royalist, Lord Rees-Mogg, told the chattering classes that their only reasonable chance of getting rid of the monarchy was by war or revolution, and that taking on the British crown was rather like taking on the Pope. From a past editor of *The Times* that was strong meat, and rather more than the audience was prepared to act on.

For the present editor of *The Times*, who from the chair offered his best wishes to the Queen Mother, they raised a nervous titter which sounded ungraciously like a sneer. *Aux moqueries, citoyens.*

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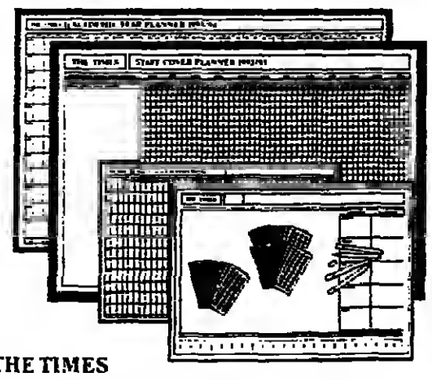

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that it broke an ancient silence and helped construct a new agenda for debate'

Continued from page 8

need them at all." Claire Rayner, a fellow panellist, agreed with that discussion of the royals had been reduced to trivia: "Even the coverage of Diana's charity work ends up being a discussion about her clothes, and the seriousness of any issue or cause is lost."

Andrew Morton said that debate about the monarchy was healthy in a democracy. "For the first time we are able to seriously discuss the institution. Before that it was all Disneyland irrelevance. The BBC and certain broadsheet newspapers have consciously ignored the serious issues."

Nicholas Coleridge, managing director of the magazine publisher Conde Nast, burst out: "That's absolute baloney. Do you know what the royals should do? Every week they should make a point of suing a newspaper as a point of principle. That would sort it all out."

Questions from the floor centred on how much the royal family cost and why the media appeared so obsessed with them. A pensioner who said that she had carried out a straw poll of attitudes to the royals in her village said: "I'm from the North of England and people up there are just fed up with the royal family. No one could care less about them but the media still harps on and on."

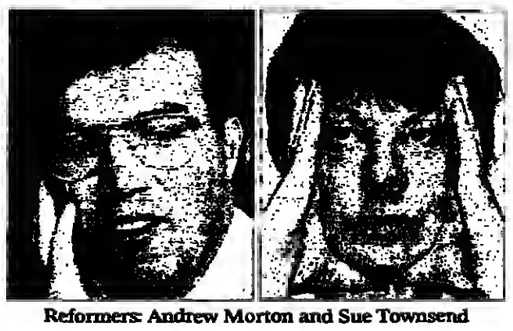
The veteran Labour politician Baroness Castle of Blackburn told the seminar on the hereditary principle that Britain was lucky to have a woman who was so judicious in the exercise of power as the Queen. She believed that the Prince of Wales was of the same ilk. He had once told her, almost in passing: "I love my job."

Deference was deep in the marrow of the British, she said, and had played a big part in recent election results. On balance, it was better that the British people should bow to a hereditary monarch than to a dictatorial president.

Lady Castle said that she had gone to the House of Lords because she desperately needed a research laboratory and welcomed the opportunity to go down the corridor to talk to her old friends in the Commons. But she urged the abolition of the upper House, which she said was a precondition of reform of the monarchy. The survival of the upper House violated what was for her a sacred principle: that power to control the lives of others should only be given to those who were properly accountable.

But it was better to continue with the monarchy, she said. The hereditary principle was so alien to modern democratic ideas that such a monarchy would behave circumspectly.

Hugo Vickers, a royal historian and supporter of the monarchy, confessed a general reluctance to debate the issue. He said that if his Queen needed his support, he was delighted to give it. The fact that the monarchy was hereditary had meant that she had had a lifetime of preparation. It was easy to destroy things, but the monarch was much loved and much enhanced national life.



Reformers: Andrew Morton and Sue Townsend

Philip Harrod said that he was firmly in favour of the way in which the Queen performed her duties, but it was a mistake to make that an argument for the hereditary principle. Lady Castle replied that if someone less suitable assumed the role, the power of the monarchy would necessarily diminish.

A philosophical objection to the hereditary principle was raised by Annie Trevelyan, who argued that it contained the roots of racism by proposing a human hierarchy. Ben Omar suggested that Britain could become more democratic by having the next heir to the throne selected by Parliament. Tim Miller, chairman of the Charter 88 executive, who presided, predicted a contest between the Prince and the Princess of Wales.

Cyril Beauchamp followed up a suggestion from the floor that Princess Margaret be given a chance to "opt out" of the royal family by proposing a retirement scheme for the monarch.

In a seminar on monarchies, sovereignty and Europe, Vernon Bogdanor said that joining a federal Europe would not impose new obligations on the sovereign but would give her the same rights as any other citizen. The rights given to the citizen of Europe would be additional, not a substitute for existing national rights. In a federal Europe, the Queen's position would be the same as that of the head of an American state, but 95 per cent of prerogative powers were already in the hands of ministers, rather than the Queen.

The monarchy appealed as much to the imagination as to the intellect, Mr Bogdanor said. There was a need for a new Disraeli who would link the Queen to Europe much as he had linked Queen Victoria to India by making her the emperor.

In the closing plenary, David Hare, one of Britain's most distinguished playwrights, argued that John Major's classless society would remain a mirage as long as the monarchy survived as the fountainhead of falseness and snobbery.

Mr Hare's contribution to the closing session was the day's most vivid attack on monarchy and one which split opinion sharply on the conference floor.

The playwright said that he observed a widening gap between rich and poor in the country and called for an early referendum on the abolition of the monarchy. "Even to put John Major's name near the word abolition is to realise how far we have gone down the path towards binding ourselves to be powerless to change anything. That sense of public acceptance is very dangerous.

"We know in our hearts that the monarchy is an historic absurdity but, because we lack the courage to abolish it, as we lack the courage for any radical undertaking, we express our anger at our own bad faith by torturing the individuals concerned."

Newspapers were making the life of the royal family intolerable, Mr Hare said. "The pleasure they are taking in this does nobody any credit. Because we do not have the guts to sweep away the monarchy we instead, like the powerless critics we have become, do, reprehensibly, the only thing we dare: we shall mock them until they wish they had never been born."

Following Mr Hare, Professor Stephen Haseler said that reform of the monarchy was essential, especially after the ratification of Maastricht. In theory, the Queen would then become a citizen of Europe like any of her subjects. The monarchy, he argued, should now take the lead in calling for constitutional reform.

The opposite view was put by Teresa Gorman, the Conservative MP for Billericay, who said that it was important not to tinker with an institution like the monarchy unless there was something fundamentally wrong with it. Modifying Belloc's phrase, she said: "May we keep what we have and cling to nurse, for fear of something a damned sight worse."

Lord Rees-Mogg, former editor of *The Times*, called himself an unqualified royalist but one who recognised the need for constitutional reform. He urged the audience not to underrate the ability of the monarchy to adapt.

The monarchy had managed to survive since the sixth century, he said. Seven monarchs had been overthrown, while others had been killed in gruesome fashion. But the institution had survived. It would be dislodged only by "war or revolution", Lord Rees-Mogg concluded.

Faith in tradition: William Rees-Mogg said that the monarchy would be dislodged only by war or revolution

Trust launches appeal to restore park landscape

PETER TRIEVNOR

View over the bridge: college students Annie Taylor, left, and Kathryn Mills look out over one of Prior Park's features to the city of Bath

By John Young

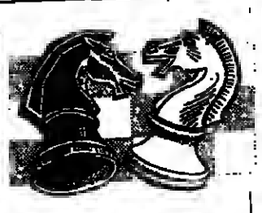
AN APPEAL for £400,000 will be launched on Friday for the restoration of Prior Park, one of the great gems of English landscape architecture.

Twenty-seven acres on a hillside above Bath, boasting spectacular views across the city, were given to the National Trust last year by the Congregation of Christian Brothers. *They form part of the grounds of a* Palladian mansion built by Ralph Allen, one of the architectural "fathers" of 18th-century Bath, around 1740. The building is being restored after being badly damaged by a fire in August 1991 and will continue to be occupied by a Roman Catholic college.

The design of the park may have been partly the work of Capability Brown, but an earlier influence is said to have been the poet Alexander Pope, who was a friend of Allen and a frequent guest at his house. It contains a number of characteristic features, including a fish pond, two bridges and a grotto, which are also in need of restoration.

Work has already begun, using four legacies and a grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund, on cutting back shrubbery. It is hoped to open the park to the public in 1995 as part of the trust's centenary celebrations.

THE TIMES WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP



By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

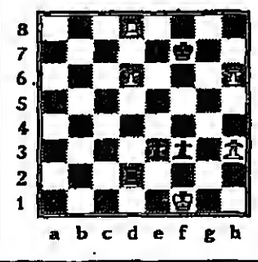
STARTING today I will introduce to *Times* readers all the great champions of chess, historically and in sequence. *Today I start with Andre* Danican Philidor.

It may interest readers to know that *The Times* chess tradition extends back to 1795, in *fact* September 2, 1795, when we published the obituary of the great French chess master Philidor.

Philidor came to London to escape the French revolution, but tragically the change of weather caused him to die of cold. Here is his *Times* obituary and a typical *win by the great champion of* the 18th century.

"On Monday, Mr. Philidor the chessplayer made his last move into the other world. For the last two months he was kept alive merely by art. To the last moment of his existence he enjoyed, though near eighty years of age, a strong retentive memory, which long rendered him remarkable in the circle of his acquaintance. Mr. Philidor was a member of the Chess Club near thirty years and was a man of those meek qualities that rendered him not less esteemed as a companion, than admired for his extraordinary skill in the difficult game of chess, for which he was preeminently distinguished. It is not two months since he played two games blindfold, at the same time against two excellent chess players, and was declared the victor. He was besides an admirable musician, and a capital composer."

Diagram of final position



The game which follows demonstrates Philidor's revolutionary strategy of winning with his pawns.

White: Count Bruehl

Black: Andre Philidor (playing blindfold)

London 1783

Bishop's Opening

1	e4	e5
2	Bc4	c6
3	Qe2	d6
4	c3	f5
5	d3	Nf6
6	exf5	Bxf5
7	d4	e4
8	Bg5	d5
9	Bb3	Bd6
10	Nd2	Nbd7
11	h3	h6
12	Be3	Qe7
13	f4	h5
14	c4	a6
15	cxd5	cxd5
16	Qf2	0-0
17	Ne2	b5
18	0-0	Nb6
19	Ng3	g6
20	Rac1	Nc4
21	Nxf5	gxf5
22	Qg3+	Qg7
23	Qxg7+	Kxg7
24	Bxc4	bxc4
25	g3	Rab8
26	b3	Be3
27	Rc2	cxb3
28	axb3	Rbc8
29	Rxc8	Rxc8
30	Ra1	Bb4
31	Rxa6	Rc3
32	Kf2	Rd3
33	Ra2	Bxd2
34	Rxd2	Rxb3
35	Rc2	h4
36	Rc7+	Kg6
37	gxh4	Nh5
38	Rd7	Nxf4
39	Bxf4	Rf3+
40	Kg2	Rxf4
41	Rxd6	Rf3
42	Rd8	Rd3
43	d5	f4
44	d6	Rd2+
45	Kf1	Kf7
46	h5	e3
47	h6	f3

White resigns

CHESS NEWS

THERE are approximately 50 professional chess players in the United Kingdom who earn a living, inter alia, by giving chess displays against 20 or 30 people at once, lectures, private coaching and games analysis. All of them are members of the British Chess Federation Players Panel. The players are named below.

If readers would like to contact any of them for tuition or other services please go *through* the London Chess Centre, tel 071 388 2404.

Players Panel:

Grandmaster Michael Adams, International Master Demetrios Agnos, International Master Keith Arkell, British Master Leonard Barden, International Master Michael Basman, International Women Grandmaster Jana Bellin, International Master Robert Bellin, Grandmaster Murray Chandler, FIDE Master Adam Collinson, Grandmaster Stuart Conquest, FIDE Master Lawrence Cooper, International Master Colin Crouch, FIDE Master Chris Dunworth, International Master John Emms, Grandmaster Glenn Flear, Women's International Master Cathy Forbes, FIDE Master Michael Franklin, FIDE Master David Friedgood, Grandmaster Julian Hodgson, British Master Jeff Horner, International Master James Howell, Women's International Master Sheila Jackson, FIDE Master Charles Kennaugh, Gary Kenworthy, Grandmaster Daniel King, International Master Gary Lane, International Master Geoff Lawton, FIDE Master Andrew Ledger, International Master Jonathan Levitt, FIDE Master John Littlewood, International Master Paul Littlewood, International Master Neil McDonald, International Master Andrew Martin, Ken Norman, Grandmaster John Nunn, International Master Malcolm Pein, Grandmaster Jon Speelman, FIDE Master Aaron Summerscale, International Master Shaun Taulbut, International Master Bob Wade, International Master Chris Ward, Grandmaster William Watson, International Master Peter Wells.

To book your seat for The Times *World Chess Championship* match between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short ring First Call on 071 497 9977. Lines are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Winning Move, Page 40

John Young finds doubts among the Tory faithful in Christchurch

Prescription for a rebellion

IN BRIGHT afternoon sunshine, Ernest and Dorothy Cradon are pushing a shopping trolley along the main street of Christchurch in Hampshire. Their progress is slow, and they seem happy to pause and talk about the worries facing pensioners like themselves.

"I was born here and, like my father, grandfather and great-grandfather, I have always voted Conservative," Mrs Cradon says. "But now I'm beginning to wonder."

"I don't think I could ever vote Labour, but I might go halfway next time," her husband adds. "I think it is terrible that, when we have paid national insurance all our working lives, to have a *secure* old age, we are now being asked to pay twice over. We both need regular prescriptions, and we can't possibly afford to pay for them."

First impressions of Christchurch do not immediately support its description by its former MP, Nigel Nicholson, as one of the oldest and most attractive towns in England. But the view improves as you approach the centre: a wondrous medieval priory church, a ruined castle, an idyllic riverside, and quiet little streets of 17th and 18th-century houses.

Like many other towns along the south coast, it has a high proportion of old people and is a traditional Conservative stronghold. At last year's election its popular MP, Robert Adley, had a majority of *more than* 23,000. His recent death, however, and the prospect of a by-election, raise doubts about whether even this Tory citadel is immune to the perception that the present government is undermining the principles of the welfare state.

David and Winifred Osborne, walking their dog along the quays below the priory, share the concern. Mr Osborne says: "We have always voted Conservative, but we are having to think a little more about it now. As pensioners, we feel it is difficult to live well these days. I have become a teetotaller because I can't afford to keep a bottle of Scotch in the cupboard."

Mrs Osborne says: "My husband is on a regular prescription, and I dread the thought of paying charges."

A recurrent theme among the elderly is that the social services are being exploited. Jean Foulger, recently retired, complains of the wastage of funds: "The very idea of making hard-up pensioners pay prescription charges is disgraceful. The elderly are being targeted, while a lot of young people are getting away with claiming money for doing nothing."

A bowling match is in progress near the castle ruins. Among the spectators is Leonard Perkin, a retired teacher. "My wife works in a pharmacy, and she knows that what people get on prescription they could not possibly afford themselves. Whether the Tories could ever lose a seat like this I don't know, but I wouldn't rule it out."

In the shopping precinct, Catherine Lawson says she needs four different medical treatments and dreads the thought of paying: "I would like to send my heating bill to Norman Lamont, and say, 'how would you like to pay this on an income of £54 a week'. This is a very solid Conservative constituency, but they are going to lose it if they go on like this."

In the Castle Tavern, outside the gates of the priory, "the Major" refuses to give his name but says he is 81 and a veteran of the North Africa campaign. "That Bottomley woman is a dodgy customer. We have got the best national health system in the world, there's no doubt about that. But we must not overlook the *fact that it has been dreadfully* exploited."

Lib Dems strike gold in western approaches

Liberal Democrats now dominate county halls west of London. In the first of a series, ***Jonathan Prynn*** *examines the reasons*

FROM Land's End to the western fringes of London, the political map of England is dinged with gold. Heading east from Penzance towards the capital, a journey of more than 300 miles, drivers spend all but the half-hour traverse of Avon motoring through counties dominated or controlled by the Liberal Democrats.

Such was the scale of the Conservative disaster in the western shires on the night of Thursday, May 6, that across the region the Liberal Democrats won 102 seats, grabbed control of Cornwall and Somerset and ended up just short of outright control in Devon, Dorset, Wiltshire and Gloucestershire.

Humiliated and pathetically depleted Conservative groups were left snarling impotently in their council seats last week as the job of forming administrations in the South West got under way. Liberal Democrat policies are already beginning to be pushed through in counties where they have outright or effective control. In Somerset, where the party has one of the biggest county majorities in Britain, the sale of council-owned farms has stopped. Councillors in Devon no longer enjoy the privilege of first-class rail travel.

It has not all been plain sailing. In Wiltshire, where the party is only three seats short of a majority, the Labour and Conservative groups ganged up to deprive local Liberal Democrats of any representation at the Association of County Councils.

Liberal Democrat councillors in the South West believe that they convinced two formerly staunch Conservative voting groups, the retired and the young mortgaged families, to secure their victory.

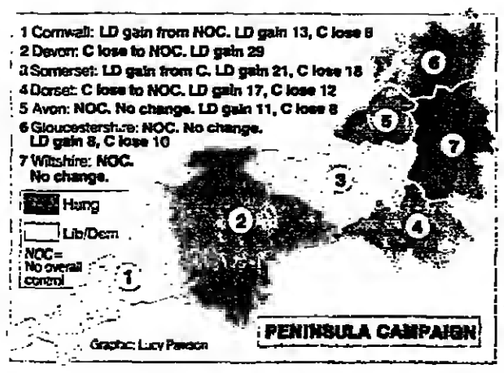
Chris Clarke, leader of the Liberal Democrat group in Somerset, said the polling day presented an extraordinary sight with "streams of elderly people, many of them actually walking their way to the polling stations with their sticks with very great determination to bloody the government's nose".

Key issues for the over-60 vote were VAT on domestic heating, the future of the state pension and cuts in local services such as home helps for the elderly. *It is still early days* for the embryonic administrations forming in the counties of the South West. There is no doubting their infectious enthusiasm following the glad, confident morning of May 7, but the inevitable broken manifesto pledges will be mercilessly exploited by their defeated and cynical opponents.

However, the key themes that will mark the new councils from their Tory-controlled predecessors are beginning to emerge. For a start, they look *different. Councils are generally* younger and have more women on them. Lip service and, where spending restraints allow, cash is to be directed at preserving education services as a top priority. Devon is devoting whatever resources it can spare towards school building. Wiltshire has already voted to redirect £1.9 million from general funds towards the secondary schools budget. Councillors say that transport, another key Liberal Democrat policy plank, will *also be given a high priority.*

Green issues will be to the fore. Planning applications can expect a rougher ride, especially those involving environmentally sensitive projects. Bloodsports may be banned from council-owned land in Wiltshire and Somerset, although Liberal Democrat councillors have been promised a free vote.

The government should not underestimate the sheer size of LibDemshire (capital, Yeovil). Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire is closer to Gretna Green than it is to Land's End.



William Rees-Mogg and Peter Riddell, page 16
Letters, page 17

Lamont isolated as finance ministers plan fiscal unity

From Tom Walker in Kolding

NORMAN Lamont tried vainly to turn back a tide of renewed enthusiasm for a single European currency at the weekend, as European Community finance ministers met for the first time since the Danish "yes" vote on the Maastricht treaty. The Chancellor refused to *put any date* on sterling's re-entry into the exchange-rate mechanism (ERM), leaving a question mark over Britain's participation in the process of monetary union.

Mr Lamont's railings against German interest-rate policy left him isolated from his EC colleagues. "He's in the normal majority of one," a *diplomat* said after the meeting in Kolding, on Denmark's Jutland peninsula.

Since Britain's withdrawal from the ERM in September, the Chancellor has rigorously held to the belief that "fault lines" in the mechanism had been responsible for sterling's *difficulties. He has claimed* that all the second-tier EC economies support his stance that the faults must be corrected before further progress towards a single currency can be made. All such support evaporated on Saturday.

Far from acting with caution, the poorer EC governments encouraged Mr Lamont to get on with the job and return sterling to the ERM. "The re-entry of the pound is a distinct possibility," Braga de Macedo, Portuguese finance minister, said. His central bank governor, Miguel Beleza, said: "It is a political question. Technically, the conditions are right now for a re-entry of the pound."

Mr Lamont insisted: "We've made it clear that we are not going to rejoin the ERM quickly. Until conditions in *Europe and our own country* move more closely in line, that question cannot be considered. Maybe it will take two years, maybe three, maybe *even longer.*

"The main problem identified at this meeting was that last year the ERM operated against a system when the needs of policy in Germany were quite different from those in Britain. That was a strain that couldn't be managed. My impression from this meeting is that many finance ministers are deeply worried about trends in the European economies, deeply worried that the system is restraining growth too much and that perhaps we should be looking at an adjustment in policy."

Lamont: not expecting quick return to ERM

No other delegations echoed these sentiments, and several diplomats wondered whether Mr Lamont was trying to shore up his reputation at home with a sabre-rattling attack on German monetary policy. If so, the tactic backfired; Horst Kohler, the German *finance secretary, said* that interest rates had "hardly been discussed".

Most participants at the meeting talked with renewed *vigour about the second stage* of European monetary union (EMU) and the setting up of a prototype central bank. "Now we have a more forward-looking attitude towards the second phase of EMU," Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, said. "That we have the political will is beyond any shadow of doubt."

M Delors added to Mr Lamont's woes by calling for the EMU issue to take the limelight at the Copenhagen summit next month. Stage two would involve a European Monetary Institute co-ordinating policy between member states' central banks.

Edmond Alphandéry, the French finance minister, talked about "six or seven countries being ready for a single currency by 1997. The only chink of light for Mr Lamont was provided by the German delegation, which insisted that a single currency could not be contemplated unless the convergence criteria were clearly adhered to. "The timetable has never been the priority, it has always been the criteria," Herr Kohler said.

However, M Delors said: "Politically, the calendar is just as important as the criteria." He said that, if Europe could get back to the growth rates of the late 1980s, EMU was feasible.

Airline drops Potteries joke

By Robin Young

AIR France has dropped an advertisement for links between Birmingham and Paris that showed an elderly couple in a tatty cafe with the caption: "Springtime in Stoke-on-Trent. Just an hour and ten minutes away."

Beside it, a second picture showed a couple sipping champagne in a restaurant, with the words: "So is Paris with Air France."

Councillors and business leaders in the Staffordshire city complained, and Don Jones, commercial director of a French ceramics company in Limoges which has links with Stoke, wrote to apologise to Stoke City Council. "We feel ashamed of our national airline," he said.

The Labour leader of the council, Ted Smith, said yesterday: "They made a big mistake when they decided to pick on Stoke. The place erupted. These ill-informed and thoroughly outdated posters really offended people." An Air France spokesman said yesterday that the advertisements had been intended to get their message across in an entertaining way. "Our agency did some preliminary research, but evidently they did not speak to enough people from the Potteries," he said.

"The posters are being replaced with pictures of a couple on a hillside enjoying a picnic, which we hope will be quite uncontentious."

Tube travellers learn to love poetry in motion

By Alison Roberts, Arts Reporter

TRAVELLERS on the London Underground may be notoriously antisocial, but they are not unromantic. As the 25th set of "Poems on the Underground" are posted, requests pour in for more love poetry.

Judith Chernaik, the woman behind the scheme, confirmed that romantic verse had been the most popular genre. In particular, many Tube users had appreciated a sonnet by a little-known poet called Edna St Vincent Millay, which begins: "What lips my lips have kissed ..." Ms Chernaik said: "People who write to us seem to remember the poem more than the poet. We have been quite free, with some very erotic poetry and some very political poetry. I get hundreds of requests, but many have been for love poems."

The London Underground, which provides 4,000 free advertising spaces and pays for production of the posters, said, however, that arm-rests between seats would not be removed to promote more intimate reading.

The new set of six poems include two stanzas from "The Garden" by Andrew Marvell, a sensuous extract containing the famous line "To a green thought in a green shade". "Idyll" by U.A. Fanthorpe is vaguely romantic and "Western Wind", the well-known 16th century lyric, is traditionally bawdy. "Christ if my love were in my arms and I in my bed again," the anonymous poem ends.

Northern line regulars welcomed the new works. Love poetry could be an ice-breaker on the bleak journey to work, said Peter Ford. "It's a bit hard to fall in love at first sight if no one looks at anyone else though," he said.

Drawing a fellow passenger's attention to a love poem opposite might be a good way to strike up a conversation.

Ms Chernaik said that the poetry was not intended to "improve" the London population. "I think that would be a rather hopeless mission. We want to get a balance between living and dead poets, between the traditional and the new, the funny and the famous," she said.

Since the London initiative, similar schemes have started in Dublin, New York, Stuttgart, and most recently in Melbourne and Sydney.

Leading article, page 17

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Secret service hand detected in Sicilian killing of judges

■ Italians saluted the man who took on the Mafia on the anniversay of his death. Investigators suspect that the state itself played a role in two assassinations

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

ITALIANS spared some time from their hallowed Sunday sports activities to recall Giovanni Falcone, the anti-Mafia judge killed a year ago yesterday, as speculaoon mounted that the magistrate was murdered for investigating links between Cosa Nostra and establishment politicians.

At 5.58 pm, the exact time that the motorcade of the judge was blown up by a bomb placed on a motorway a year ago, church bells rang out across Sicily. Ships anchored in the port of Palermo sounded sirens.

Organisers of the annual Tour of Italy bicycle race agreed to stop the competition for one minute of silence to honour the memory of Judge Falcone, the most effective anti-Mafia magistrate since the second world war, who was assassinated on the road from Punta Raisa airport to Palermo on May 23, 1992, with his wife, Francesca, and three police bodyguards. There were calls also for the matches in the national soccer cup to be halted for a minute, but the soccer federation was reluctant on the ground that sport should not become involved in politics.

As demonstrations were held in Palermo to mark the killing of Falcone oear the town of Capaci and that of his successor, Paolo Borsellino, murdered in Palermo by another bomb on July 19, investigators and victims' relatives gave increasing weight to suggestions that Italian secret service agents, possibly acting on orders from senior politicians, may have been involved in the assassinations. "It was easy for many people to pass off the massacre of Capaci as just a Mafia massacre," Vito D'Ambrosio, a magistrate close to Falcone, said. "Instead there were probably other aims behind it."

The sister of the judge, Maria Falcone, said: "I wish I could say Giovanni was killed by the Mafia alone, but a doubt lingers in my mind." Alfredo Galasso, an anti-Mafia judge and leading light of the anti-Mafia party La Rete, suggested that Falcone was trying to discover who had replaced Salvo Lima, the Christian Democrat politician killed in March 1992, who was an intermediary between the Mafia and the Rome political world. "I do not exclude Falcone was working in those days on Lima — to identify his successor, a character who united criminal, political and economic powers."

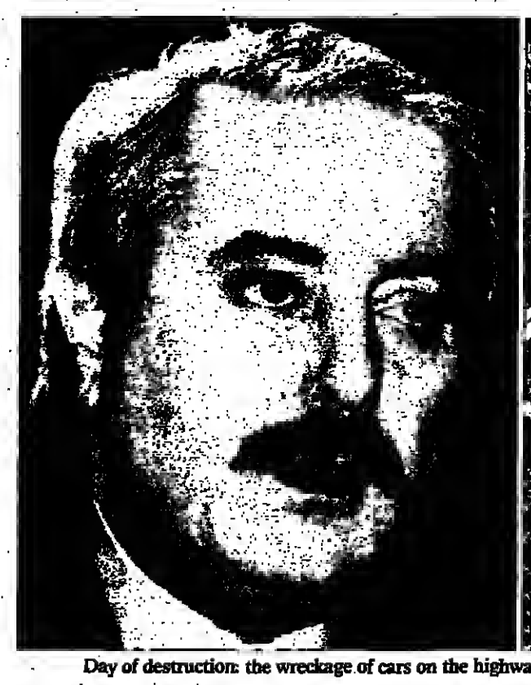
Bruno Siclari, the national anti-Mafia prosecutor, who took up the post designed for Falcone, confirmed that the authorities suspect a secret service agent, who acted as a Mafia "mole" until his arrest in January, may have been involved in the killing of Falcone and Borsellino. "If the hypothesis on which the magistrates are working is confirmed, it is possible the enquiries will go beyond the secret agent."

Programmes about Falcone have dominated television channels for three days, with every politician chipping in his opinion about the battle against organised crime. But Leonardo Guarnotta, the last Palermo magistrate from the pool of investigators who worked with the judge and who is still hunting the Mafia, said he was sickened by former enemies of Falcone jumping on the bandwagon. Official pomp and ceremony threaten to gloss over the difficulties the establishment put in the way of Falcone, forcing him to abandon his work in Sicily for a justice ministry job in Rome, he said.

"I don't like these celebrations... I don't want forgotten the responsibility of those who destroyed the pool (of Palermo magistrates), those who weakeoed judicial intervention against the Mafia, those who consigned Giovanni to mortifying solitude. It is as if there was no political or personal blame, as if the life of Giovanni was not poisoned."

Antonino Drago, a Sicilian politician who was an ally of Giulio Andreotti, the former prime minister, was arrested yesterday when he stepped off a plane from France. Signor Drago and two other politicians from Catania are suspected of receiving hundreds of thousands of pounds in bribes for granting contracts to build a trade fair centre.

❑ **Pope's plea:** The Pope told Italian politicians that they had a duty to be honest. Speaking in the Tuscan city of Arezzo, he said public administrators had a special responsibility to the people. *(Reuter)*



Day of destruction: the wreckage of cars on the highway near Palermo where Giovanni Falcone, left, and his wife were killed a year ago by a bomb planted on the motorway

East German steel pay to match levels in the west by 1996

FROM JANET NORTHCOTE IN FRANKFURT

GERMAN employers and union leaders have hammered out a pay deal intended to halt three weeks of strikes in east Germany's steel industry. The agreement, reached early yesterday after 13 hours of talks, provides for the wages of east German workers to rise to 80 per cent of western levels in June, 90 per cent in October 1994, and match western salaries by April 1996.

The first legal strike in the region for 60 years is expected to end officially tomorrow, when the membership of the powerful IG Metall union votes on the deal. Economists said the scars of the strike — mainly in the form of shattered investor confidence — would remain long after steel production resumed.

"This is a presentable agreement," Horst Wagner, chief negotiator for the union, said. "We would not have achieved this result without a strike."

About 9,000 steelworkers were the last strikers from a much wider wave of industrial action in the east. They were joined in the first two weeks of their strike by tens of thousands of engineering workers, also fighting for the reinstatement of a cancelled pay contract. Engineering workers in all but one of the five east German regions have agreed a pay deal and returned to normal working.

The steelworkers' union achieved a key objective in pushing through faster pay increases than were awarded to striking colleagues in the engineering industry.

In a separate development, Franz Steinkühler, head of IG Metall, faced renewed criticism and calls to resign this weekend, almost a week after he denied allegations of insider trading. The magazine *Stern* last Monday accused Herr Steinkühler of using insider knowledge to make profits from shares in Mercedes AG Holding AG. Mercedes is a shareholder in Daimler-Benz AG, where the union leader sits on the supervisory board.

Steinkühler: denies insider trading claims

Herr Steinkühler has admitted the share transactions and making a profit of about 64,000 marks (£25,500) but says he was not acting on insider knowledge. He bought the shares just before Daimler announced a share swap plan with Mercedes that boosted Mercedes stock.

In an interview yesterday, Karl Otto Pöhl, the former Bundesbank president, attacked Herr Steinkühler for speculating in shares of a firm to which he had close links.

Germany will tackle two of the toughest problems left from unification in 1990 when parliament holds a final debate this week on curbing immigration and the Constitutional Court rules on abortion reform.

President von Weizsäcker called for calm from 10,000 demonstrators expected to convene on Bonn on Wednesday. Left-wingers and civil rights activists plan to rally against a government-opposition compromise on limits to the liberal asylum law to stem a tide of refugees from East Europe and the developing world.

A relaxation of the abortion law has also provoked an angry ethical debate inside and outside parliament. On Friday, the Constitutional Court is to announce its decision on an appeal by the Christian Democrats against a reform of the law, which would lift most restrictions on abortion in the first three months of pregnancy. *(Reuter)*

Russian hardliners call for plebiscite

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S hardline conservatives claimed at the weekend they had gathered enough signatures to call a national referendum on restoring a "Soviet socialist constitutioo".

Pravda said Workers' Russia, a communist organisation, had collected more than a million signatures in opposition to President Yeltsin's plan to replace the present constitution. Russian law provides for the calling of a referendum if one million citizens request it.

President Yeltsin has announced that he will press ahead with a constitutional assembly of 88 regional leaders on June 5. Hardline leaders intend to hold their own conference of sympathetic regional politicians on the same day to draw up an alternative constitution.

The National Salvation Front, an umbrella group uniting figures from the far left and right, announced that it would picket Mr Yeltsin's assembly in defence of the existing constitution. The Yeltsin camp says the hardliners have not yet presented their list of signatures for verification and there is some doubt about its legal validity.

TV duel will test Spanish poll rivals

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

THE first televised debate between the two main contenders in Spain's general election, called for June 6, takes place tonight and is expected to have a crucial impact on the 30 million-strong electorate.

About 5 million Spaniards are expected to watch the first of two planned duels between Felipe González, the Socialist prime minister, and José María Aznar, leader of the right-of-centre Popular party.

During the 90-minute debate on Antena 3, Señor González, 51, with the experience of over ten years in power, is expected to be more convincing than Señor Aznar, 40, who has beeo less charismatic at campaign rallies. The election is more a personality contest in the absence of radical policy differences. Señor Aznar was yesterday closeted with image experts while the prime minister was campaigning in the Canary Islands, facing a three-hour flight back to Madrid before today's confrontation.

None of the polls gives any party a majority in the 350-seat congress and they agree that about 20 per cent, or six million undecided voters, will hold the balance. A high turnout is predicted.

Some surveys pot the Popular party ahead of the Socialists but after June 6, the Catalan and Basque regional parties are expected to dictate who becomes Spain's next prime minister. Julio Anguita, the communist leader of the United Left, which may win about 12 per cent of the vote compared to about 35 per cent for each of the main parties, said in Gõon on Saturday that the televised debate would be "like the same neo-liberal body with two heads arguing with itself".

This is the toughest election campaign since 1977, two years after Franco's death, and his spectre haunts the bustings. On Saturday, Señor González reminded Asturian miners in northwest Spain that Manuel Fraga, a former president of the Popular party, gave orders for striking miners' wives to have their hair shorn when he was a Franco minister in 1962. He referred to PP candidates as "these debauched *señoritos* (rich little Daddy's boys) who have always left Spain with lots of grease in their hair and cases full of money, without any regard for the interests of our nation".

Mario Conde, Spain's best known banker and president of Banesto, indirectly criticised Socialist policies at a stormy shareholders' meeting at the weekend. He said that "an adjustment plan for the economy is inescapable".

Señor Aznar said on Saturday that Socialists were those who had supported "many *señoritos* and spivs who have enriched themselves from other people's work".

Caviar city has no taste for Yeltsin

On the second stage of her journey through Central Asia, Anne McElvoy visits Astrakhan, which has seen little of the profit from its lucrative speciality

THE one thing you would not want to eat in Astrakhan is caviar, which is a shame given that it can be bought from any number of black-market dealers in dirty jam jars for a few dollars a shovelful.

The dusty southern city on an island in the Volga at the mouth of the Caspian Sea lives from its waters, known as the "golden depths" for their generous yield of fish. If there is a balcony that does not sport rows of the latest catch drying in the sun I failed to spot it and the smell on a hot spring day is enough to curb the appetite of the most enthusiastic gourmet.

The distinctive blue tins of Beluga caviar and the second-best Sevruga are still churned out at Astrakhan's vast canning factory bearing the legend "Made in the USSR". Few ever reach the shelves of the city's stores and, to judge by its down-at-heel appearance, the place has not seen much of the profit from its lucrative speciality.

Half the adult population is employed in fishing and a good number of the other half is involved in stealing sturgeon, a nocturnal activity to which the river militia turns a blind eye in return for handsome pay-offs. Outside the fish market, dealers try to sell their illegal catches but housewives hurry past, intent on garnering real rarities such as fresh fruit and meat. Most of the unofficial caviar is bought by Azeris who control Russia's caviar market. They fly to Moscow and sell it there in slightly cleaner jam-jars for a lot more dollars and often engage in fatal gun battles to protect their monopoly.

One salesman, Maxim, said he would happily swap his caviar eggs for a good bottle of vodka. "We don't really eat much of it ourselves," he said. "Maybe six kilograms (about 15lb) a year." Founded in the 13th century by Mongol Tatars, Astrakhan was destroyed by Tamerlane in 1395 and, after a brief revival, conquered again by Ivan the Terrible in 1552 as he sought Russian access to the Caspian Sea.

The city's fortunes improved in the 17th century when it became the hub of the trade route with the Caucasus, Central Asia, Persia and India and provided Peter the Great's base during his Persian campaign after he had subdued an oprising against his reforms. The first shipbuilding yards were opened here for the construction of Peter's Caspian fleet and today the industry struggles to find orders.

Once important enough to have its own kremlin, whose five green domes dominate the narrow streets and ramshackle modern housing blocks, the city declined as Russian influence spread south into the Caucasus, Persia and Turkestan, leaving it with a residual dislike of Russian power. Astrakhan's elected representatives are ootorious for failing to appear at the Congress of People's Deputies, complaining that the flights are too unreliable, and unwilling to spend two days on a slow Volga train to Moscow.

President Yeltsin, irked by this indifference, made a rare visit to this resentful outpost of Russian hegemony last autumn when he was gathering public support for the introduction of privatisation vouchers. He is unlikely to return in a hurry. The welcome was the surliest of any during his reign and caused him great embarrassment in front of the television cameras.

When he tried to convince a group of elderly residents of the benefits of participatory capitalism, urging one toothless elderly Tatar, "Do not sell your voucher straightaway. Invest it wisely," the man replied in a thick, southern brogue: "Boris Nikolayevich, I'd sell it to you now if I thought you were fool enough to buy it."

Q: Who gives you First Class when you've bought Business Class?

(TO CALGARY, EDMONTON AND VANCOUVER THIS SUMMER).

Q: Who gives you First Class champagne and caviar when you've bought Business Class?

(TO CALGARY, EDMONTON AND VANCOUVER THIS SUMMER).

Q: Who gives you First Class luxury seats when you've bought Business Class?

(TO CALGARY, EDMONTON AND VANCOUVER THIS SUMMER).

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Defiant critic of Patten defends trip to Peking

FROM JONATHAN BRAUDE IN HONG KONG

SIR Percy Cradock, a critic of the policies of Chris Patten, the Hong Kong governor, yesterday defended his visit to Peking at such a sensitive moment in negotiations over the future of democracy in the colony.

His trip, particularly his meeting with Jiang Enzhu, the deputy foreign minister and China's senior negotiator at the talks, is viewed with suspicion in London and in Hong Kong. It is feared his known opposition to Mr Patten's approach to reform will send the wrong message.

In an interview with *The Times*, Sir Percy, a former foreign affairs adviser to Margaret Thatcher, said he believed lost ground could be recovered in the present negotiations with the Chinese, although it would be difficult in the present atmosphere of suspicion. However, he had agreed with the Chinese in advance that he would not be discussing the Hong Kong issue and could not see what

Cradock: wants to hear what the Chinese say

he could do to upset the negotiations.

"It could well be argued that at a time like that one does not want to cut off communications with the Chinese. One wants to hear what they have to say. But in this case I have laid down ground rules which will prevent me talking about any of the really hot issues, and I shall abide by that. And the Chinese know it and have accepted it."

Sir Percy was speaking after his arrival in Hong Kong, where he will meet local legislators and senior British diplomats in the territory before flying on to Peking. He said his programme was known to the British government in February, but it was only in the past two weeks that anyone had objected to it.

"It's an absolutely innocent visit," the former Foreign Office sinologist said. For fear of embarrassing Sir Robin McLaren, the ambassador to Peking, who is leading the British team in the negotiations with Mr Jiang, Sir Percy will not be staying at the ambassador's residence.

However, he has raised eyebrows in Hong Kong by inviting Sir Robin to accompany him on his meetings with Chinese officials. It is felt in some quarters that the ambassador's presence might appear to give an official imprimatur to the meetings or send a message that Sir Percy, as an experienced negotiator with China, might be acting as an intermediary.

Sir Percy rejected criticism of his plans. He said that he had been invited to dinner by Mr Jiang and wanted to hear Chinese views on their foreign and economic policy and how they expect them to develop as China grows stronger over the next decade. "I imagine the ambassador would want to come along with me, in order to listen to what is being said."

Sir Percy, a former ambassador to Peking, said he had never opposed any extension of democracy for Hong Kong and had, in his time, negotiated for more himself. However, he said a confrontational approach with China would achieve nothing.

Last night the third round of Anglo-Chinese negotiations ended, but neither side would reveal the conclusion. A fourth round will begin on May 28.

Passports to democracy: Buddhist monks in Siem Reap, Cambodia, holding voter registration cards as they queued to vote in yesterday's elections

Cambodia voters ignore guerrilla threats

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN CHHUK, CAMBODIA

NERVOUS foreign election officers in Chhuk, a district town 70 miles southwest of Phnom Penh, watched in amazement yesterday as laughing villagers dressed in their Sunday best lined up to vote in a shell-scarred school.

"It would be hard to imagine anything like this in Britain," said Pat Morgan, 30, an election volunteer who works in the Town Hall at Ealing, west London. "The enthusiasm is incredible, even though as voting started we heard the explosions of up to 40 incoming shells."

"I am afraid of the Khmer Rouge but that won't stop me from voting," said Koun Thien, 22, as she stood in line with her baby daughter, ignoring the thud of incoming Khmer Rouge rockets and mortars across the rice fields.

Alexandra Hall Hall, 29, a Bangkok-based British diplomat who is also an election volunteer, peered through an old shell hole in the polling station and looked nervously towards the forest just half a mile away. "The Khmer Rouge could emerge from the jungle at any time. Still, it's thrilling to be here, and I plan to sleep in the polling station tonight to protect the boxes."

Three miles away, Khmer Rouge guerrillas held two French foreign legionnaires for an hour and stole their vehicle. The guerrillas, based in the forest-clad Elephant Mountains, warned villagers they would burn their homes if they went to vote, then kill them on their return. Villagers later said three people, including a village chief, had been killed in the attacks.

That was the biggest reported Khmer Rouge attack on the first day of Cambodia's six-day United Nations-supervised election process. In Phnom Penh and other provincial towns, jostling, good-humoured Cambodians ignored Khmer Rouge threats to disrupt the elections and queued in the rain in their thousands well before polls opened. The steady downpour was a good omen to Cambodians, who believe rain cools political passions.

A UN spokesman said an estimated one-third of the electorate had voted on the first day. "The first day of the vote is certainly a great encouragement," he said, "but we have to remain focused and alert."

A total of 4.7 million Cambodians, 95 per cent of the voting population, have registered to vote in the first multiparty elections since 1972. Twenty parties, whose symbols range from a white elephant, an eagle, an angel, a

sacred cow and a dove of peace, are contesting 120 seats in a national assembly which will write a constitution and create a national government which Cambodians hope, will receive international backing and support.

One of the two front runners is the opposition royalist party, known by the acronym *Funcinpec*, led by Prince Norodom Ranariddh. He is a son of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the chairman of the transitional Supreme National Council, who returned on Saturday from Peking where he has been receiving medical treatment. The other is the Cambodian People's Party of the regime that has been in power since a Vietnamese invasion drove out the Khmer Rouge in January 1979. It controls the army, police and the administration.

The royalist connection is popular, as is — because of war-weariness — Funcinpec's policy of "reconciliation", which means a peaceful resolution of the conflict with the Khmer Rouge. The Phnom Penh regime, despite flagrant corruption and intimidation of opposition parties, protects the population from the Khmer Rouge, although most of its chiefs are former members. Hun Sen, the prime minister, is thought an able leader. Counting starts next Sunday, but final results will not be known until June 5.

Arrests in Tibet sour visit of EC diplomats

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE group of European Community ambassadors and senior diplomats travelling in Tibet last week returned to Peking over the weekend and reported their unease about Chinese persecution of political dissidents in the autonomous region.

The ambassadors had spent a week there, escorted by Chinese officials, and because of reports relayed to them by the London-based Tibet Information Network and Amnesty International learnt of the arrest of dissidents who might have been attempting to contact them.

When they heard the allegations the delegation demanded a meeting with Mao Rubai, the Chinese deputy governor of Tibet, who has been in the region for more than 20 years. He confirmed that there had been arrests, informed the diplomats that some of those detained had been released, and denied that the arrests were connected with the diplomatic mission.

The ambassadors were sufficiently disturbed to suspend their programme last Friday, and are reported to have transformed what was intended to be a farewell ceremonial banquet into "a working dinner on human rights". During their visit they were allowed to visit a prison but were denied access to detained monks or other political prisoners.

A source in the American State Department confirmed that some US officials were attempting to block reports of the arrests because they would increase pressure on President Clinton to place limitations on the renewal of China's "most favoured nation" trading status, on which he must act by June 3.

The source confirmed that the president was hoping to attach conditions to the status which the Chinese could easily meet, making its renewal next year a certainty. However, Tibet is a sensitive issue in Congress, the source said, and the recent reports encourage congressmen to force the president to make the conditions tougher. The diplomatic trip has therefore been turned into a potential trade disaster for China.

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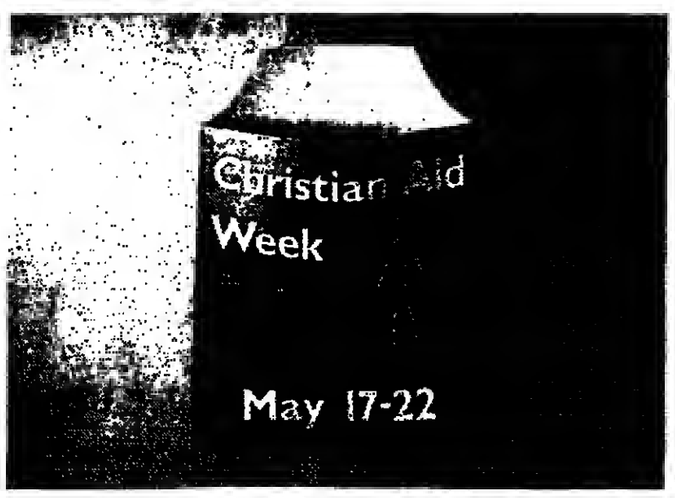

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Death toll from Cairo bomb rises

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

THE death toll in Friday's car bombing in central Cairo, the worst since the Islamic terrorist campaign began over a year ago, rose yesterday to seven.

Security sources said that one of the new victims was the brother of a 10-year-old girl killed instantly when the bomb exploded without warning outside a police station close to the city's main railway station and a busy bus terminus. Twenty people remain in hospital, some still in critical condition.

Home-made shrapnel was used in the device to maximise injuries. The bomb was similar to other devices used by Islamic extremists, who are trying to overthrow the moderate regime of President Mubarak.

Yesterday police defused another bomb at a Cairo metro station and there were warnings to at least one of the city's main tourist hotels. Friday's explosion was seen as a demonstration that the Islamic campaign has not been seriously affected by the recent arrests of more than 1,500 Muslim suspects.

Mandela denies ANC alone will set date for elections

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

NELSON Mandela, president of the African National Congress, moved swiftly yesterday to deny a report that the ANC planned to announce unilaterally the date of South Africa's first non-racial election before next month.

The report by the South African Press Association had indicated a new, hardline attitude by the ANC after the marathon talks last week between President de Klerk and Mr Mandela, mainly over the black education crisis. Any unilateral move by the ANC is certain to result in fierce reaction from many of the other 24 delegations, including the government and particularly the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party of Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi. Mr Mandela was reported to have made the statement in a speech in the volatile Natal Midlands, where he was winding up a weekend tour seen as the start of the ANC's election campaign.

On Saturday in Dundee, he told supporters that the ANC would demand that the legal voting age be reduced to 14. "They say a person under 18 cannot think correctly and make a wise choice. We reject that. ANC youths left school at the age of 12 to join Umkhonto we Sizwe [the ANC's armed wing]. Those who fought for freedom are the very people it is said should not vote. We reject that."

The statement is being seen as a conciliatory one towards ANC youth which is becoming increasingly uncontrollable. Although the Congress of South African Students has called on pupils to go back to school, there is reluctance among many of them about abandoning the programme

Mandela: favours vote for youths aged 14

of mass protest action, including the occupation of empty white schools, that was to begin today.

In another statement yesterday, Mr Mandela told white and Indian businessmen in Newcastle, Natal, that the ANC's alliance with the South African Communist Party was valid only until the country's first democratic election. He compared the alliance to the anti-Nazi pact between the Western allies and the Soviet Union during the second world war.

The statements came as tension smouldered between ANC and Inkatha supporters after the killing of 13 people in violence that flared between ANC marchers and Zulu hostel dwellers in Thokoza township, southeast of Johannesburg, on Saturday.

Separately, a plan to snatch Mr Mandela by helicopter from Robben Island, the maximum-security prison where he spent most of his 27 years behind bars, was revealed at the weekend. It was to have taken place on New Year's day 1981, nine years before he was freed. Documents detailing the plan will go on show in Cape Town on Wednesday.

Chariot chief's tomb intrigues experts

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

ARCHAEOLOGISTS have unearthed the 3,200-year-old tomb of a senior aide to the pharaoh Rameses II which experts believe may be part of a previously unknown necropolis near the pyramids at Giza.

"We are in front of a very big discovery," Mohammed Ibrahim Bakr, chairman of the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation, said outside the tomb cut into a sand-covered slope of rock rising above the straggling village of Abu Sir, about seven miles from the Giza plateau. The tomb was built for Nakb-Min, the "overseer of chariots and messenger to foreign lands" for Rameses II. Discovered three weeks ago, it consists of a limestone-paved courtyard and a room cut into the rock at one level, with a series of four chambers stretching deep into the desert hillside.

The third of these, about 12 ft square and 5 ft high, is decorated with figures of animal-headed gods, representations of gateways and inscriptions from the *Book of the Gates*, a compendium of spells devised to guide souls through the Underworld. According to Dr Bakr, it was the first time that the book had been found in the pyramids area. The tomb paintings are outlined in black on white-washed plaster, not coloured in as ancient Egyptian wall paintings usually are.

Rameses II, known as Rameses the Great, reigned for 67 years in the 13th century BC during the New Kingdom period of ancient Egypt. The houses of Abu Sir are built right up to the slope which concealed the tomb. "The police told the inspectorate that there were some people stealing from the place here," Dr Bakr said. "We did not know whether there was a tomb here or not, so we decided to excavate the area and were fortunate to find it."

The floor of the third chamber is piled with rock which has collapsed from the roof. Labourers are cutting wooden props to prevent further rock falls.

"It might be the beginning of the discovery of a whole necropolis in Abu Sir," an Egyptian archaeologist working at the site said. "This is the first time that we have found New Kingdom tombs here." The pyramids of Giza, Abu Sir and Sakkara belong to the Old Kingdom, which began about 5,000 years ago.

☐ Manila: Nearly 400 years after being sunk by a Dutch warship, the Spanish galleon *San Diego* has yielded 28,000 items of treasure since the being found in 1991 off Fortune Island, near Batangas province in the Philippines. The finds include 3,000 pieces of Ming Dynasty china. *(AP)*

هكذا من الأصل

Vance-Owen plan dies after long, painful illness

Eve-Ann Prentice, Diplomatic Correspondent, laments the time it took to switch off the life-support machine of a plan doomed to fail

TWO lovers lay dead in Sarajevo yesterday, killed by snipers five days ago as they tried to flee to safety. The fighting in the Bosnian capital was so vicious that no one could retrieve their bodies, wrapped in a final embrace.

Their killing is evidence that the world has achieved next to nothing in halting Bosnia-Herzegovina's civil war, despite a year of hand-wringing, futile peace conferences and meaningless ceasefires. The murders of the 25-year-olds, a Serb and a Muslim, coincided with another death at the weekend — that of the Vance-Owen peace plan, *after a long and painful illness*.

The plan, to carve the former Yugoslav republic into ten semi-autonomous provinces, is succeeded by the American-led scheme to provide air cover to United Nations forces guarding safe havens. The weekend deal agreed by the foreign ministers of the United States, Britain, Russia, France and Spain effectively allows Serb and Croat aggressors to keep for now the territory they have seized.

It is also the latest addition to a growing portfolio of Chamberlainesque "break-throughs", which have only led to surges in fighting. The deal did not even survive for 24 hours before it was rejected by Alija Izetbegovic, the Muslim president of Bosnia.

The Vance-Owen plan required vast amounts of diplomatic energy as Cyrus Vance, Lord Owen and latterly Thorvald Stoltenberg tried to persuade Serbs, Muslims and Croats to agree to a scheme that was always highly unlikely to succeed. It was unlikely to succeed because thousands of Western troops would have been needed to keep the warring factions apart in the multiethnic provinces, resources the West was unwilling or unable to provide.

Lee Hamilton, chairman of the US House of Representatives foreign affairs committee, said yesterday: "No Western leader was prepared to put the kind of resources into the Balkans necessary to roll back Serbian aggression." He also admitted on BBC Radio that "the Serbs have certainly gained territory and the West has not achieved its objective if that objective was rolling back Serbian aggression".

The worrying aspect for diplomacy worldwide is that the Vance-Owen plan was not disconnected from its life-support system weeks ago, and that the world seems to lack any Churchillian statesman willing to pronounce what Bosnia-watchers have known for some time: that "ethnic cleansing" has historically never been reversed and therefore de facto recognition of Serb and Croat gains had to be made before progress towards halting the killing could be made.

Worse, the Vance-Owen plan has arguably done more harm than good because the time spent wrangling with leaders who never intended to sign it encouraged Croats and Serbs to seize yet more land for their communities. Serb forces now control 70 per cent of the republic.

The first signs that world leaders were finally willing to accept the inevitable demise of the plan came only last week. First President Clinton, in answer to a question, said he did not know whether the scheme was alive or dead. Then the Foreign Office significantly began to refer to the Vance-Owen "process" instead of the "plan".

In the past year, Germany and France were in good positions to lead diplomatic efforts to halt the fighting that has killed at least 100,000 people. But Bonn is still embarrassed about having led the European Community into premature recognition of Croatia, and France has historic ties to Serbia and socialism in general that have kept President Mitterrand's hands tied.

Last August, the London peace conference was hailed as a tough-talking forum that had rattled the Serb leaders in Belgrade and Pale, the Bosnian-Serb seat of power. Yet warnings of increased sanctions and isolationism against Serbia probably only succeeded in helping extremists romp to victory in Serbian elections four months later. Ordinary Serbs remain convinced that they are being picked on by the international community while Croatia is left relatively unscathed.

The only thing the new American-led peace initiative seems able to protect is diplomatic face. The allies have been distraught at the rift between the United States and Europe over how to deal with Bosnia and the new agreement does present a united approach to the war. However, there are no formulae for ending the killing, merely hopes that it can be contained. Under the deal, Washington will provide air cover to protect UN peacekeepers guarding safe areas, but not to protect embattled civilians from attack.

West tardily follows UN in accepting Bosnia facts

FROM MICHAEL EVANS IN VITEZ
MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON
AND JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE West's strategy to end the bloodshed in the Balkans, reluctantly agreed at the weekend in Washington, was advocated for months by the United Nations Protection Force in Bosnia.

Aware of the impracticality of trying to persuade the Serbs to move back behind the new front line allocated under the Vance-Owen peace plan, they have been warning that the only political solution was to accept the new status quo.

Since no Western government had shown inclination towards military intervention to end the ethnic conflict by force, the Unprofor officers had said there was no alternative but to throw the Vance-Owen map away and start again. A senior Unprofor officer said last night: "There has been a tremendous effort to get this message across, but certain nations have not been listening." He said the Serbs could be given "a bloody nose" by Western military action but it would never resolve the Bosnian problem. "If we went flat out we could probably defeat the Serbs, but what about tomorrow? An AK47 Kalashnikov is given to people here as their birthright. They will perpetually be a thorn in the West's side."

The new plan will be a bitter blow for the Muslims, whose strategy has been to try to persuade the West to intervene militarily or to provide them with weapons. Compelled by European opposition to abandon its plan to arm Bosnia's Muslims, the Clinton administration was instead forced to adopt the idea of creating Muslim "safe havens". It had long argued that these would ratify Serb territorial gains, create permanent refugee camps and require an open-ended military commitment by the West.

The allies will provide the extra ground forces required to protect the five initial havens of Sarajevo, Srebrenica with Zepa, Gorazde with Foca, Tuzla and Bihac in which an estimated 1.2 million Muslims have taken refuge. The Americans will provide air cover, but only to protect the peacekeepers, not the havens.

Killing time: two women awaiting treatment in a Sarajevo hospital after being wounded by a mortar shell. UN officers said both sides had shelled civilians

Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, called this a fair "division of labour", but Alain Juppé, the French foreign minister, dissented. "I have not agreed with the so-called division of labour between those who are in the sky and those who are on the ground," he said.

The Washington agreement was a mini-triumph for the Russians, who had taken the lead in pushing the new plan. But it marked a joyless end to President Clinton's first big foray into international diplomacy and his reaction was lukewarm. "At least we are together again," he said, referring to the recriminations of recent weeks that have strained the Nato alliance and encouraged the Bosnian Serbs to discount the threat of Western involvement.

The plan, which was agreed by the American, British, French, Russian and Spanish foreign ministers on Saturday and will be presented to the UN today, includes several non-military measures to sustain the political and economic pressure on the belligerents.

It calls for the deployment of international monitors on the border between Bosnia and Serbia to discourage the delivery of supplies to the Bosnian Serbs. Officials acknowledged, however, that this could not happen without the approval of Slobodan Milosevic, Serbia's president.

The Western pledge to protect the Muslim enclaves brings the UN one step closer to its "nightmare scenario" in the Balkans. UN officials fear nothing more than being forced to use peacekeeping troops to fight on one side of the civil war — an eventuality that Boutros Boutros Ghali, the secretary-general, warned last year could lead to "the UN's own Vietnam". Now the cash-starved organisation, which has been unable to find troops to replace the 900-member Nigerian battalion that plans to withdraw from the UN force in neighbouring Croatia, must finance additional troops in Bosnia for the indefinite future.

☐ **Belgrade:** Two policemen were killed and five others were wounded in a shooting incident in Glogovac town in the Serbian province of Kosovo. *(Reuter)*

Muslim outrage, page 1
Leading article, page 17

Clinton strives to close the widening credibility gap

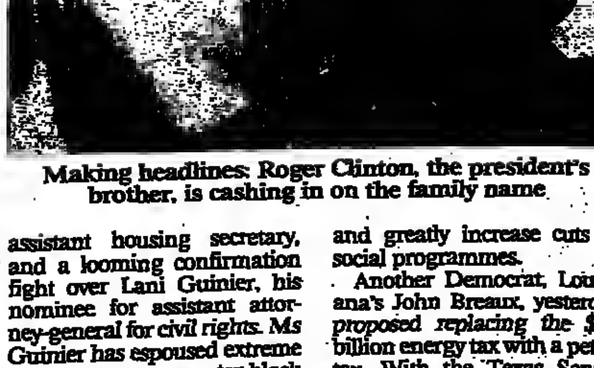
BY MARTIN FLETCHER

PRESIDENT Clinton tried to pull out of a political nosedive at the weekend by rounding on Democratic opponents of his economic programme, but he could not shake off his growing troubles.

Two more important Democratic senators joined the revolt against his economic package, which contains record tax increases. Mr Clinton, visiting New Hampshire yesterday, was taunted over his $200 (£133) haircut by placard-wielding citizens.

New evidence surfaced that his friends had pressed for a share of the White House travel business, and the first presidential outing since last week's controversial sacking of the White House travel office was nearly a fiasco — the supposedly better and cheaper charter plane hired by the White House for the media sat for two hours on the runway with a fuel problem.

The president's self-inflicted problems have eclipsed those caused by his wayward brother, Roger Clinton, the administration's "Billy Carter", who is shamelessly cashing in on the family name and now plans a national lecture tour.


Making headlines: Roger Clinton, the president's brother, is cashing in on the family name

Sixteen months ago Mr Clinton, beset by allegations of adultery and draft-dodging, was fighting for his political life in the New Hampshire primary. On this return trip, Dee Dee Myers, his spokeswoman, managed only the weakest of smiles as she joked: "Things were easy then."

Mr Clinton, struggling to restore his centrist credentials, faces more embarrassment this week with a Senate vote today on Roberta Achtenberg, the lesbian he nominated for assistant housing secretary, and a looming confirmation fight over Lani Guinier, his nominee for assistant attorney-general for civil rights. Ms Guinier has espoused extreme causes to ensure greater black representation, questioning the principle of one man, one vote and suggesting minority vetoes in legislatures.

The flaps over Mr Clinton's haircut and the travel office are relatively minor in themselves, but with the House voting on his economic plan on Thursday and the Senate soon after that they are undercutting his political standing at a critical moment.

Senators James Exon and Bob Kerrey, both of Nebraska, announced that they supported the "basic thrust" of an attempt by two other conservative Democratic senators to abolish Mr Clinton's across-the-board energy tax, the heart of his deficit-reduction effort, and greatly increase cuts in social programmes.

Another Democrat, Louisiana's John Breaux, yesterday proposed replacing the $72 billion energy tax with a petrol tax. With the Texas Senate seat of Lloyd Bentsen, the new treasury secretary, expected to fall to the Republicans on Saturday, Mr Clinton's slim 57 to 43 Senate majority is in danger of vanishing.

The president has little room to compromise without upsetting liberal Democrats. Instead he turned angrily on the rebel Democrats, several of whom are from oil states. The "oil lobby is trying to wriggle out", he declared in his weekly radio address. It was trying to pass the burden onto the poor and elderly. "I regret that responsible legislators would even consider this proposal, but I will fight it."

Diary, page 16

Junior baseball killing shatters American idyll

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

LITTLE League baseball, *the junior baseball competition* that flourishes in almost every community in the United States, has always been a feel-good symbol of suburban American life. Youngsters knocking a ball about on the American equivalent of the village green and absorbing the essential qualities of neighbourly competition and fair play — a million miles away from the racism and violence that is the darker side of America.

But for residents of Castro Valley, a quiet suburb southeast of San Francisco, that idyll was shattered after the first game of the season ended last week with an ugly racial dispute and the killing of a spectator.

During the game between the Castro Valley Black Socks and the American Indians from neighbouring Ashland, one of the Castro Valley team members began taunting a black player on the opposing team. The Castro Valley team is predominantly white; Ashland, largely composed of black and Hispanic players.

The umpire stopped the game and told the spectators to calm down, but the racial abuse continued. At the end of the match fighting erupted between the rival teams. The Ashland catcher, Antonio Messina, 18, picked up a baseball bat and swung it at the white boy who had mocked his team mate. He missed, and *fatally struck on the head* Joseph Mateucci, 17, a bystander.

Messina himself suffered a head wound from a stone hurled by the Black Socks pitcher as he tried get away from the scene. Now recovering in hospital, he has been charged for assault with a deadly weapon.

The Castro Valley community is divided over the killing, but some citizens sympathise with the accused boy. One of the umpires, Robert Lloyd, has received death threats since he agreed to help police investigators, and last week an unidentified arsonist started a fire at his home.

The Castro Valley league is now pressing for the national league to bring in rules of behaviour to try to prevent a repetition of the violence. These would prescribe penalties for discourtesy and require the players to shake hands before and after every game.

But the mere fact that *Little League baseball*, once a byword for all-American values, might need regulation has left some feeling that one of the most cherished American sporting myths has been irrevocably damaged. "It has scared the heck out of me," the mother of one Castro Valley Little League player told *The New York Times*. "I'm afraid not to go to the games with him now."

NEWS IN BRIEF

US tries to revive Mideast talks

Jerusalem: The Clinton Administration is expected to send two envoys to the Middle East to try to salvage the collapsed peace process and broker a preliminary agreement between the Palestinians and Israel (Richard Beeston writes).

According to reports in Israel, two senior State Department officials are expected here soon in an an attempt to heal the deteriorating relations between the two main parties in the negotiations.

The stalled peace talks received a fresh setback at the weekend when Sheikh Abdul-Hamid Sayegh, 86, speaker of the Palestine National Council, the Palestinian parliament in exile, resigned in protest at the "capitulation" that the Palestinians were being forced to accept. "I do not want history to record that I was responsible for all the harm that is befalling the Palestinian people," he said

Haiti initiative

Miami: A UN envoy and President Clinton's special adviser on Haiti have arrived on the island for talks with the military leadership about the deployment of a multinational police force to help restore democracy. Jean Bertrand Aristide, the ousted president, is reportedly backing the plan.

Loan agreed

Islamabad: Pakistan has reached agreement with the International Monetary Fund for a £650 million loan to bail out its economy. The Pakistani finance minister said the IMF wants Islamabad to cut expenditure but to spend more on social programmes. *(AP)*

Elvis enquiry

New York: Officials from Elvis Presley's home town have filed a law-suit demanding that Tennessee state open a new investigation into his death. They want to know whether he died of heart disease, as stated on the death certificate, or a drug overdose.

All clear given

Enerhodar: Europe's largest nuclear power station, in Ukraine, was operating normally after an explosion near a reactor. One worker was killed and another injured. No radiation escaped, according to the management. *(Reuter)*

Congress loses

Delhi: The ruling Congress (I) party fared poorly in by-elections seen as a popularity test for P.V. Narasimha Rao, the prime minister. It won four out of the 16 contested seats in eight states. *(Reuter)*

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Stress and isolation are taking their toll at Oxford. **Walter Ellis** reports on the fear of failure

Image of Oxford: behind the civilised façade, undergraduates find the weight of academic pressure and employer expectations increasing remorselessly. Some cannot take it

Death among the dreaming spires

Death in the afternoon, once a rarity at Oxford, has returned to stalk the cloisters. Four undergraduates have died since last October — three by suicide, one through drug abuse — and others have either tried to kill themselves or contemplated doing so.

The latest casualty, Lei Don Lau, a history finalist, from Magdalen, was to prove especially embarrassing. For, as the 22-year-old Singaporean lay dying in his room, evidently unable to deal with his fear of failure, famous actors and actresses, together with all the panoply of the modern cinema, were busily engaged outside in making the feature film *Shadowlands*, dealing with the life and love of C.S. Lewis. Cameras, under the direction of Sir Richard Attenborough, probed the celebrated faces — Sir Anthony Hopkins, Debra Winger — and scanned the incomparable façades of the ancient college. But isolated in his rooms, unknown to all, Lei had abandoned hope.

"I feel sad and angry about it," Suke Ryder, Lei's neighbour, told the *Oxford Mail*. "It's so pressured here. There's competition and isolation from the real world. It's very easy to get lost."

Yet it would be wrong to heap blame on Magdalen, or on the other colleges in which deaths have occurred over the past year. It is the system which has failed, not individuals. According to an undergraduate survey published last week, four out of ten students at Oxford have considered dropping out of their courses, nine out of ten have reported difficulties over the volume of work and half were concerned about the stress of examinations.

For the college authorities and university administrators, it is a serious problem. But in fact, the truth is rather less bleak. There are more than 10,000 undergraduates at Oxford, and all but a handful emerge from their three or four years of study with degrees to their name. It is for the minority, therefore, that something needs urgently to be done. Dr Christopher Haigh, the historian and Senior Censor at Christ Church, whose duties include the pastoral care of undergraduates, says that preclinical medical students in particular are under enormous pressure and work "shockingly hard". Engineering, he adds, also imposes extreme demands. However, for those committed to success there is no alternative but to buckle down and get on with it.

"Oxford in the past was perceived to let bright people in and then leave them largely to their own devices, with essays to write, tutorials to attend and lectures available to those who wanted them, or could be bothered," Dr Haigh says. "But all that has changed. Today, the regime is much more arduous, and if undergraduates can't keep up they are asked to go."

Dr Haigh emphasises that expulsions are rare and that most students respond well to warnings, but he acknowledges that the atmosphere is highly charged. "What we must be careful of is that we don't drive any of our undergraduates in ways that could damage their wellbeing. What we are looking for is a combination of high effort and achievement and efficient support services."

At Christ Church, as at other colleges, arts students are usually required to hand in two essays a week during term and to attend the same number of tutorials. Scientists and medics have it rougher. They spend much of their time in the laboratory or at classes, and are required to write up practicals as well as produce essays. Standards in both sectors are high, and no student is permitted to get away with shoddy work.

Mods and Greats, Oxford's unique contribution to classical scholarship, obliges students of just 18 or 19 to reach a sophisticated understanding of Latin and Greek in just five eight-week terms. They must then sit "Mods", in which honours are awarded, before proceeding through a further seven terms on the way to "Greats".

> 'Several people I know have considered suicide'

Martha Lovell, a second-year Christ Church scholar — sufficiently distinguished on entry to have her status denoted by a three-quarter-length gown — had not studied Greek beyond a rudimentary level when she arrived and, like many of her colleagues, found it unreasonably difficult. She made it through "Mods", but has since switched course to Ancient and Modern History in order, mainly, to allow her time to pursue the less rigorous aspects of college life, including beagling and champagne.

She is aware of the need to work hard. Her fear is that the sheer grind leaves little time for proper enjoyment of the life for which Oxford is traditionally renowned. "It's a privilege to be able to waste time in beautiful surroundings," she muses, somewhat ruefully, "but a Third doesn't get you very far these days."

Close by, in Exeter College, Katie Seagal, a first-year student reading mathematics and philosophy, complains that she has had to attend four tutorials in a week as well as producing essays, and that the pressure on her often seems relentless. "I get scared and intimidated by my tutors," she says. "I'm better now, but at one point I thought I would have to leave before I committed suicide."

Rachel Mainwaring-Taylor, reading modern languages, does not believe that Katie is being in any way melodramatic. "Several people I know have considered suicide, but most would leave first and in the end they have always coped," she says. "Tutors don't always take account of the pressures on students who have just left home for the first time and are having to learn how to work on their own."

Others — especially the men — take a much more relaxed view, which may go some way to explain why fewer women achieve firsts. Edward Wild, from Keble, about to embark on his theology finals, is both articulate and brilliant and could well (though he denies it) be awarded a distinguished degree. So has he worked his fingers to the bone and scarcely had time for a life outside his studies? Not a bit of it.

"I've had an enormous amount of fun, and only coming into my last two terms did I do any real work," he says, going on to quote Eric Heaton, a former Dean of Christ Church: "I would rather this college was Head of the River than head of the Norrington Table."

Getting the balance right is clearly vital. Dr Chris Kenyon, an Oxford GP, with considerable experience of undergraduate stress, says that it is often those with least structure to their days — usually arts students — who are most at risk. "They have been used to being high-flyers at school. Suddenly, they feel quite ordinary, and on their own. Exams only add to this pressure — especially finals. This is when I sometimes have to give out tranquillisers. When there's a week to go, there's no time to learn meditation."

Colleges are acutely aware of the problem. Both they and the university are responding. The counselling service, headed by Elsa Bell, is to be given substantially increased resources, including extra staff and an improved telephone link. A proper freshers' week — astonishingly, the first Oxford has had — is to begin this autumn, and the chancellor, Sir Richard Southwood, is setting up a study skills working group with a view to helping undergraduates to use their time as efficiently as possible, with the least stress.

The problem, in the end, is that the weight of academic pressure, and of employer expectations, is increasing remorselessly. Most can take it. Some cannot. "You can't make a general case from extreme examples," says Dr Michael Hart, senior tutor at Exeter. What is essential is that the danger signs are spotted early. Each undergraduate death is not just an individual tragedy, it is a blow to an ideal and an affront to academic dignity. Their prevention in future would be a true mark of Oxford civilisation.

Oxford exams, page 35

Harassed? Don't make me laugh

LIBBY PURVES

In the spring, a young man's fancy likely turns to thoughts of heavy damages for sexual harassment. Something along the lines of $375,000 for the emotional distress of having your female boss lock herself in your office and fondle you, plus $560,000 in punitive damages, plus repayment of lost earnings. Hey ding-a-ding-a-ding, sweet lawyers love the spring.

They do in Los Angeles, anyway, where Sabino Gutierrez, a handsome chap of 33 with snappy two-tone specs and a moustache, successfully took a million dollars off his employers, who make hot tubs (stop sniggering, this is a serious matter). His plaint was that Maria Martinez, the personnel director, allegedly got a bit too personal. "When I argued against her advances," said Mr Gutierrez, "she became very angry." Well, one would. We new women can be terrible when roused. Mr Gutierrez says his desk was cleared when he got engaged. Ms Martinez retorts that he is "a typical egotistical macho peacock".

Meanwhile, back in Cardiff, more traditional roles were played out on Friday by a red-headed woman juror who walked with due gravity into the Crown Court, and a 19-year-old lad in the galleries. He wolf-whistled, louder than he meant to; panicked, bolted, and was arrested by five policemen and locked up for 14 days (although released after one night on bail) for contempt of court. Judge Geoffrey Kilfoil pronounced: "I am not prepared to accept your apology. I do not consider a fine to be sufficient for contempt."

And what have these stories in common? Two things: the sexual imperative, and the guffaw factor. Both are misdemeanours upon which society correctly frowns: in the one case we have the bullying and exploitation at work of an employee by a superior, on the other a teenage yahoo disgracefully disrupting the solemn processes of British justice. Dreadful stuff. Shocking. Why, oh why then, will my lips not stay pursed in disapproval? Why do I keep giggling?

The trouble with all sexual harassment cases is the same: that unless it tips over into real and unforgiveable violence, sex is always irresistibly comic. Particularly comic when it crops up in the wrong context. Of course such bullying is deplorable. Faced head-on it is distressing. But tell the story baldly and what happens? Everybody falls about laughing.

When I was 20 a dreadfully senior member of my university, to whom I was trying drunkenly to expound my views on Shakespeare, put his hand up my skirt. I was, literally, shocked rigid: I felt demeaned, miserable, humiliated, alarmed at the consequences of rebuffing him. I felt all that stuff which Mr Gutierrez told the court that he felt too, poor wee man. But a couple of days later not only did I find it impossible to relate the dastardly events on the leather sofa to other people without them cracking up with laughter, but I cracked up myself every time. I could not have brought the poor roan to a reckoning, it would have needed Mr Justice Cocklecarrot and the 12 red-bearded dwarfs.

Perhaps it is a national inhibition which makes us laugh uncontrollably at sex. Where America has Monroe and France has Bardot, we have Barbara Windsor. British novelists are never so absurd as when they become mystically reverential about eroticism: what Nabokov, the beast, can carry off with a certain style becomes embarrassingly hilarious in the hands of Melvyn Bragg.

Our real sexy successes, from *Tom Jones* to Jilly Cooper, have always been in the line of bawdy. On holiday this summer, countless Britons who would not be seen dead with any other sex-and-shopping blockbuster will eagerly read the newest of Miss Cooper's books: simply because instead of breathing heavily she rollicks through her sex scenes making exceedingly silly puns and ridiculous anatomical comparisons to cruise missiles, meringues and the keys on push-button telephones. This is all baffling to Americans, more accustomed to the earnest heavings of Jackie Collins.

On the whole though, infantile though it can be, I think I prefer the British way. In public life we must go through the motions: send the odd silly teenager to jail for whistling, and consider with due gravity any complaints from young men whose female bosses breathe lascivious suggestions in their ear. In private we can carry on giggling. And male victims as well as female might do well to remember that nothing, absolutely nothing, puts harassers off their stroke like a well-timed gale of laughter.

Around the world in 270 days — and back to the other half

Circumnavigating the globe for the British Steel Challenge kept yacht crews away from their loved ones for a long period. Did it make or break the ties?

Chests inflated like spinnakers, the left-behind landlubbers waited yesterday morning on the Southampton quayside for the return of their nearest and dearest aboard the yachts of the British Steel Challenge.

"She's always coped with things, right from being a little girl," someone was saying (there are 30 women among the 179 participants). "He's always had his head screwed on the right way," another vibrant voice declared. It's hard not to be proud when your husband, wife, boyfriend or girlfriend has sailed around the world against wind, tide and all reasonable expectations.

At the same time, the price — £15,000 a participant — to join Chay Blyth's extravaganza is one that some could ill-afford. Homes were sold, jobs abandoned, families waved goodbye to. The hardships and dangers, moreover, were not endured in order to help any worthy cause. It may be, as one competitor said, "the ultimate form of self-expression", but is it also sublime selfishness?

It was far too sunny in Southampton yesterday for such sour thoughts. Some relationships have no doubt foundered in the three years of preparation and nine months of the race, but plenty of others have plainly flourished. Hester Brierley, 23, met her boyfriend, Nigel Bray, when he had already signed up. "He told me he was going round the world," she said. "So it was either like it or lump it."

After the transatlantic crossing, during which Mr Bray had been thinking hard about things, as yachtsmen do, he phoned her from Rio and proposed. Another couple actually married in Rio, the question having been popped over ship's radio with a few hundred sailors listening in.

In the case of Patrick Quinn, 52, and Kevin Dufficy, 45, divorce from their wives (who were sisters) prompted them to sign up for British Steel II to keep the brother-in-law bond going. Mr Quinn remarried before the race, and his new wife's daughter has subsequently become engaged to another crew member.

Some women, if they can afford it, have visited their men in all three ports of call: Rio, Hobart and Cape Town. Vicky Gladwell, 26, whose husband, Marcus, is a fisherman, went one better, hitch-hiking and bussing around the world since the race began in September. She managed to wave to her husband at Cape Horn as he sailed by. "I told him if he was going, I might as well go too," she said.

It has not been so easy for others. Debbie Hills, 35, whose husband, John Carter, 38, is on Group 4 Securitas said: "I did feel lumbered when he went. He was off, and I had a job and a house to look after. We kind of had a pact that this was his turn, and at some stage I'm owed £15,000 and a year off."

Apart from a scattering of self-made businessmen, cost has been a problem for everyone. Younger people have scraped and saved, sold treasured possessions and sought sponsorship. "You will be repaying money for one thing or another for the rest of your life, but you won't be doing this again," said Ms Brierley, apparently unconcerned.

Sally Cowan, who planned to go herself until a violent bout of seasickness on a cross-Channel ferry shopping trip persuaded her otherwise, said her husband, David, 53, had not been young enough to attract sponsors. "So he thought, sod it, I'll save it myself."

When Dr Elizabeth Mackenzie discovered (by taking an unexpected phone call from Chay Blyth) that her husband, Dr Campbell Mackenzie, now 60, had applied, she thought: "He can't go for two reasons, thank God. He's far too old for this nonsense, and he hasn't got the money." Then a modest endowment policy, taken out by his mother some 50 years earlier, yielded £15,000 exactly, and the game was up. He was appointed fleet doctor.

Everyone claims that, to compensate for absences, the race has generated its own family spirit. But those left behind also talk rather too unanimously about "changes" in their yachtsmen and themselves: acquiring a different perception of what's really important: becoming more tolerant, appreciating small things more.

All this may be true, but will the yachtsmen (and women) settle again for home cooking and nine-to-five? Or are they in for post-circumnavigational depression?

Ms Brierley thinks her fiancé has become more ambitious, and will get down to his work as a self-employed builder. "If he doesn't, he's in trouble," she added darkly. No such luck for Mrs Gladwell, whose husband already has plans to make the fastest underwater crossing of the English Channel, dragged on a sledge.

Patricia Gibson says that her husband, John, 54, is now talking of cycling coast-to-coast across the United States. (She thinks she will have to go along, driving the support team car.) Elizabeth Mackenzie thinks that her husband has "got it out of his system", but didn't seem entirely confident of her diagnosis. "They're all mad," she added.

If nothing else, the triumphant relatives could allow themselves a quiet snigger yesterday at the blazered *Howard's Way* buffoons of the snootier parts of the yachting establishment. ("There aren't many yacht clubs in Blackburn," said one mother, with some relish). It may have stretched finances and tested loyalties, but the novices-turned-seadogs proved a point. After all, they did it Chay's way.

PETER TAYLOR

Arms and the man: Vicky Gladwell greets her husband Marcus at Southampton

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هكذا من الأصل

The land that put more than a billion people into matching jackets attempts to become a style capital

Ancient and not very modern: from left, traditional Chinese costume, contemporary street style and a selection of outfits on display at Chic '93 — Peking says it is hungry for international design, but is it really part of a bid for the Olympics?

IAN BERRY/MAGNUM

Fashion

IAIN R. WEBB

Mao is out of fashion

For those who believe that fashion capitals are to be found only on the back of a perfume bottle — London, Paris, Milan, New York — it may come as a surprise to see a new city vying for attention. Peking has just hosted a fashion fair for the first time. Chic '93, the China international clothing and accessories fair, aims to put the Chinese on the fashion map.

Chic '93, which ran for five days at the China World Trade Centre from May 14-19, was a showcase for the Chinese fashion industry, as well as acting as host to 110 foreign exhibitors, including companies from France, Germany, the United States, Italy and Taiwan.

Adding glamour to the occasion was a visit by the Italian designers Valentino and Gianfranco Ferre, who were invited to parade their spring/summer and couture collections before the fashion-hungry Chinese in two joint shows, and as part of a huge outdoor spectacular at the Temple of Heaven in Tian Ten Park.

It is obvious that the Chinese want Western style the moment you arrive in Peking. The streets are no longer full of uniformly dressed citizens in anonymous Mao jackets (many factories in the Chinese capital have had to stop manufacturing the revolutionary garb due to a demise of interested customers). Instead, business suits, blazers and sporty separates mingle.

Every day more and more European and American companies advertise their wares in the newspapers. Marks & Spencer, Dunhill, Episode, Benetton, Stefanel — all of them advocating a more stylish and individual way to dress.

Realising that the population is looking for something new and exciting, the Chinese government stepped in. Chic '93 was its response. The fair was authorised by the ministry of textiles and the ministry of foreign economic relations and trade, and was seen as a way forward for China. It confirmed its desire to be seen as part of the world as a whole.

> Sadly, the Chinese are keen to plagiarise clothes worn by Western tourists

Other observers see this wholehearted acceptance of Western ideals as just another part of the Chinese bid for the 2000 Olympic Games. Everywhere you look in Peking there are banners, billboards and painted slogans bearing the words, "A More Open China Awaits 2000 Olympics".

What of the fashion? For the most part it seems hard to view it in such terms. Certainly, by Western standards, the "fashion" involved is minimal. Walking around the two floors of the exhibition, it became obvious that the clothes on show varied little from those already on sale in the markets or worn in the streets.

Sadly, with such a glorious culture of its own to draw upon, the Chinese fashion industry is more keen to plagiarise the clothes worn by Western tourists. The results are a mish-mash of garish sportswear, matronly dresses and lacklustre suits.

The Chinese designers featured at the open-air gala show were certainly more experimental, and in keeping with our concept of fashion design. Crocheted dresses, with woven basket-work accessories; billowing sun dresses in bright florals; layered knitted separates; matelot stripes worn with micro-short skirts; and one of the collections even showed a sense of humour by using the emblem of the revolution, the Red Star, scattered across dresses, coats and caps.

However, four years after Tiananmen square, Chinese potential has fallen short of the mark. Would it not be more appropriate (and thrilling aesthetically) to look at their own history and rediscover the wonders of the Orient — the elegance of the emperors and the lavish splendour of their robes? Perhaps this is asking too much too soon of a country which, as recently as the mid-1970s, saw individualism as a crime.

That China is moving on fast forward is beyond question. Economic reform came only in the 1980s, yet the populace quickly decided to dump the Mao jacket in favour of Western-style clothing, despite the vast difference in price (Mao jackets can be bought for as little as 20 yuan, less than $4). There can be little doubt that, as the Chinese fashion industry experiences more cross-pollination with its European and American counterparts, the sophistication of its designs will progress as fast as its technical know-how.

Of course, the opening up of China is also viewed with interest by the global fashion industry, because it is a potential growth area. With a potential market of 1.17 billion, there are few companies which are not tempted. Among the French contingent at Chic' 93 were Dorothée bis and Lolitta Lempicka. "Our clothes are already very successful in Japan and Hong Kong," says Jacqueline Salé, the commercial director at Lempicka. "We think it can be a new market."

The sentiment was echoed by Robert Genestier, director at Dorothée bis. "Everything is changing very quickly. The market is very big. In the West everyone's market is in crisis. We need to find new customers: China could be one of them."

Where commerce is concerned, China undoubtedly holds great attraction. But as a major player on the international fashion scene? Like the Chinese and their Olympic bid, we await the outcome with curiosity.

East meets West: a Chinese woman fruit seller outside a shop selling European-style clothing which ignores her own country's rich cultural heritage

Sneaking feelings for ancient trainers

Suddenly, it's the height of fashion to be in a clapped-out pair of Adidas

Kate Moss has five pairs. So does her photographer boyfriend, Mario Sorrenti. Fashion doyenne Suzie Menkes heralded them as the new cult sneaker. Designers Helmut Lang and Liza Bruce sent all of their models down the catwalk wearing secondhand versions.

The question is not whether Adidas trainers are the height of chic on both sides of the Atlantic, it's how they arrived at that esteemed position. After all, these are the gym shoes everyone wore on the hockey or the football pitch in the 1960s and 1970s.

Maybe it's the retro thing? New York fashion accessories editor Lucy Wallace says: "It's all of this harking back — fashion has gone full circle." Or could it be a back to our childhood thing? Danny Errico, owner of the Equinox gym, says: "I bought a pair of purple suede Adidas for the same reason everyone else is buying them — they remind me of my childhood." Either way it must be annoying for the marketeers at Nike and Reebok, who have spent millions of advertising dollars attempting to make their trainers the personification of cool.

"Adidas don't perform as a sports shoe — they're just not sports and function specific," sniffed a sports marketing executive. Exactly. Save for Errico, the hip, trendy types who favour Adidas have absolutely no intention of working out in these or any other trainers. Wearing them is tantamount to flipping two fingers at Jane Fonda and Lizzie Webb.

It was Kate Moss, together with stylist Melanie Ward and photographer Corinne Day, who sprang the "Adidas with everything" trend (jeans, skirts and bikinis) that so swiftly crossed the Atlantic. Ward, who styles all of Day's shoots for magazines like *The Face*, *ID* and *Arena*, as well as styling fashion shows for Liza Bruce and Helmut Lang, says that her inspiration was functionality. "I kept seeing all of these beautifully dressed Asian women in East London wearing amazing saris with plimsols or Adidas on their feet. It wasn't for fashion. It was for comfort and ease."

It is the connotations of wearing trainers with regular clothes that makes the Adidas trend such a surprise hit in New York. "Ugh, sneakers with business clothes makes everyone think of those badly dressed Wall Street women in their socks and white Reeboks," proclaims style consultant Nathalie Dunlap Smith. None the less, generation Xers (a newly discovered target audience for marketers, younger than yuppies and considerably older than Prince William) are heading in droves to their nearest Adidas stockist, or to second-hand stores.

"The more beat-up the better," says Ward, who raided her brother's closets for the Helmut Lang show. Price certainly has something to do with it (Adidas Gazelles, the most popular style, retail for $59.95 [£38.90] in New York). But discovering discontinued models has particular cachet. When a student at New York University film school announced he had found a store in Chinatown selling outmoded white leather Adidas with white flashes, the store sold out the next day.

Adidas style: trendy types love them — and they have no intention of working out

The Adidas PR in the States is finding the whole thing rather hard to fathom. "We think it's related to the hip-hop, rap thing. I mean what was sold is now new again. We do make athletic shoes — you know, the type you can run in — but at the moment people are interested in the soccer trainers, the Gazelles. Rather strange don't you think for a country with no interest in soccer?"

Will the anti-trainer fashion trend continue? Adidas executives must have their fingers crossed. They recently went through a takeover and announced multi-million dollar losses in the first quarter. There was even a rumour that they were restricting distribution to stores in America to maintain trainer fever. The Adidas PR denies "the very idea", but he will admit that "we're trying to bring Adidas more and more to the consumer's attention".

"It's not new, this outdated trainer thing. We've been doing it in Britain for years," says photographer Corinne Day. Yes, but America is where the money is. Day agrees. "Did you know," she asks excitedly, "that you now buy those old fashioned Stan Smith tennis shoes in New York?"

TINA GAUDOIN

● *The author is health and beauty editor, Harpers Bazaar.*

Liz is back in town

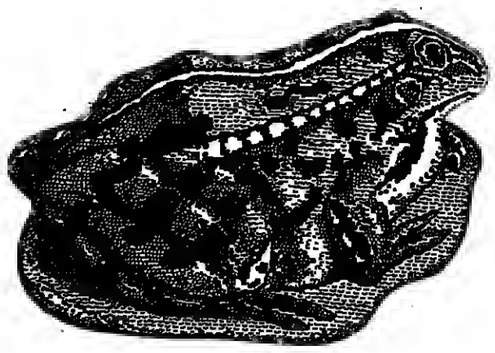
ELIZABETH Taylor, the chair of the Aids research foundation AMFAR, will again be supporting one of her favourite designers, Valentino, when she hosts the charity's gala dinner in Venice on June 12.

● ACTION taken at an international level to protect the environment has resulted in the phasing out of ozone-depleting products used by dry cleaners. As a result, delicate fabrics might in the future be uncleanable. Care labels indicate by a P or F which solvent must be used and garments with an F are at risk. CF113, used for the cleaning of fragile fabric, is to be withdrawn by December 1994. Computer and aerospace companies, other consumers of CF113, are stockpiling with disastrous effect for the dry cleaners. Prices look set to rise.

● BESPOKE tailoring is becoming extremely popular again. Charlie Allen recently opened his first London shop, where he is offering a bespoke service alongside his familiar collection of ready-to-wear men's clothing. Housed in an 18th century building, the interior has a club-like atmosphere, with deep sofas for customers to sink into and ponder the width of a lapel. Charlie Allen, 186 Upper Street, London N1.

LILY PAD FROG - A NEW TAPESTRY KIT BY

KAFFE FASSETT



KAFFE FASSETT'S wonderful frog is a light fresh mixture of pale greens, yellows and earthy browns. He sits on a lily pad in similar colours against a deep sea green background. He works equally well as a lifelike cut-out (above) or as a conventional cushion (below). This frog breathes life and movement and is a magnificent example of Kaffe Fassett's skill as a painter.

Measuring approximately 20" x 15" the design is printed in the full eleven colours on 8 holes to the inch canvas so is quick and easy to stitch. 100% pure wool from the Paterna range is used and the design can be worked in either half-cross or tent stitch. The kit costs £37.50 including postage and packing and comes complete with wool, canvas, needle and instructions. When ordering use FREEPOST - no stamp needed.

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Matthew Parris

■ Instruction booklets peddle facts and fancies unique to themselves, which we are too nervous to challenge

Do you encounter many pigeons' eggs directly? Have you ever seen a pigeon's egg? Have you seen a life-sized picture of a pigeon's egg? Have you the least idea of what a pigeon's egg looks like — size, shape, colour?

Ready as I am to allow that tens of thousands of *Times* readers will give an unhesitating "yes" to all these questions, there must be at least a handful of you who join me in scoring nought out of four. It seems likely that a pigeon's egg is ovalish in shape, and probable that in size it lies somewhere between (say) a butter bean and a ping-pong ball — but more than that we cannot with confidence say.

So why did the instructions for use of my shaving foam say "squirt a quantity of foam the size of a pigeon's egg onto palm of hand"? For a start, it doesn't come out in the shape of a pigeon's egg. If the instructions had said "about the size of a poodle's dropping" I could have visualised. The size of a poodle's dropping varies somewhat, of course, but surely the size of pigeons' eggs does too? *Why* (for let us come to the point) can't the people who write instructions put themselves in the shoes of the people who have to read them, and ask what will, and what will not, be self-evident to the dimmest among us?

It is a source of lifelong bafflement to me. Here is a recipe from a recent *Woman & Home* magazine: *Poached salmon in aspic*: [a list of 20 ingredients, followed by . . .] "1oz of edible flowers". Sorry, but despite an expensive education nobody ever taught me which flowers are the edible ones. Can you guess? Daffodils look nice, and I'm willing to sink my teeth into a hydrangea or welly my way through a bowl of mixed snapdragons ("Here, get these chrysanthemums inside you boy") but first I need advice. *Woman & Home* does not provide it. Does the sort of person who buys this magazine know these things instinctively?

And then there are those cooking instructions. What is a "pinch" of salt? I don't pinch salt, I never have. And how do you "flash under a hot grill"? When they say "1½ cups milk" do they mean big cups, medium sized cups or little cups? Someone once told me that a tablespoon is actually bigger than an ordinary dessert spoon; and as for teaspoons, these come in an infinite variety of sizes.

"Toss flour onto boiling water and allow to seethe," said a recipe I have never forgotten. "Sweat the vegetables first," said another. We are also ordered to "crumble" the butter in the sugar, and then "fold" them into the flour and milk. In my experience, butter does not crumble and nothing in the kitchen folds except the recipe sheet.

But nobody tells you anything, and slowly the feeling grows that you move in a society where everyone else knows these things; and you grow less and less willing to make a fool of yourself by asking. There seems to be a whole world, removed from my experience, in which vegetables sweat, flour seethes and butter crumbles, and where people sear and scold, toss, fold and broil, and which I dare not say I have never visited. "Bake blind," say the instructions. I often feel I do.

Bafflement like this came early to me. At the age of seven I received a model aeroplane kit for my birthday. The following day I tried to assemble it according to the instructions, but my father was away and I did not know what a "fuselage" was. My mother didn't know either — probably still doesn't. We ended up with the wheels glued onto the tail fin.

That was 36 years ago but age does not bring understanding. The other day I brought some eardrops. "Lie on your side," said the instructions. So I did. This made it harder to read the next stage of the instructions, so I turned them on their side too. "Five drops to be instilled with the head inclined." *Five* drops? How could I count them? I cannot see round to my ear, so I required a mirror. The bathroom mirror wouldn't come off the wall, so I tried lying on the bedroom floor, at the foot of the wardrobe, whose door has a mirror, but it was too high. Returning to the bathroom, I stood before the mirror, wrenching my head over to one side.

> 'Despite an expensive education nobody ever taught me which flowers are edible'

Now came a new dilemma. I don't know about yours, but the entrance to my ear (I was brought up never to say "earhole" as common boys did) is quite small and, having missed the second world war, I have no training in accurate high-altitude bombing. The ear drops kept splashing onto my cheekbone. Every time I moved my hand the *mirror-image effect caused* me to move it the opposite way to what I wanted. The only way to target correctly was to insert the *nozzle* of the dropper right into the ear. But this yielded a gush rather than a series of drops: and I couldn't see what was going on, or in.

Finally, practising with water, I learnt to determine how far up the stem of the dropper the required volume of fluid reached, leaving me free to perform the drop itself, so to speak, blind.

My struggles, all alone, made a pathetic little scene. Is everyone else in Britain married?

There is evidence on the ground of an underlying revival in Paddy Ashdown's party

Lady luck swings to the Liberals

William Rees-Mogg

At the general election of 1929, when I was ten months old, my mother pinned a blue rosette to my pram and took me canvassing in Maynard Terrace, a row of miners' houses in Clutton, a village which was then and will again be in Somerset. Maynard Terrace was named after the Countess of Warwick, the celebrated Daisy who was a mistress of King Edward VII. As a somewhat older child I twice presented her with a bouquet at the Clutton flower show. I can to this day remember her charm, and can at least vouch for King Edward's impeccable taste.

Since then I have followed Somerset politics, and have used Somerset as one of my main reference points for political opinion. Increasingly Somerset has been becoming Liberal Democrat territory. There is an old radical tradition, dating even from the Monmouth rebellion of the late 17th century, reinforced by the impact of John Wesley in the 18th century and by the chapels of the 19th. Yet the most recent county council election results represent a new high point of the Liberal recovery. They won half the Conservative seats with swings of up to 25 per cent — about the Newbury level.

Even at the last general election the Liberals had been getting close. If one takes the old county of Somerset, there are nine parliamentary seats: Bath, Bridgwater, Somerton, Taunton, Wansdyke, Wells, Weston-super-Mare, Woodspring and Yeovil. Paddy Ashdown won Yeovil for the Liberals in 1983; they won Bath in the 1992 general election. In 1992 the Conservatives polled a total of 254,000 votes, the Liberals 206,000 and Labour 74,000. That relatively narrow margin gave the Conservatives the other seven of the nine seats.

Nobody supposes that the county council electioo results are likely to be repeated at the next general election. Nevertheless, some further swing to the Liberals is generally expected. More tactical voting is likely; some disaffected Conservative voters will stay with the Liberals. I would guess that half the Labour vote in Somerset could desert to the Liberals at the next general election. Labour voters want to defeat the Conservatives; in Somerset only one of the defeated Labour candidates, in Wansdyke, got within 20,000 votes of a successful Conservative. The only way for Somerset Labour voters to help achieve a Labour government will be to vote Liberal in 1996 or 1997.

The government is unpopular, probably more unpopular than it will be when the next election eventually arrives. Nevertheless, many Somerset Conservatives seem extremely alienated and resentful — having had a rough time in the recession, apart from anything else. Again one can only guess. I would expect about 10 per cent of previous Conservative voters in Somerset to stay with the Liberals at the next general election. That at any rate is what the Conservatives have to fear, and some measure of the ground they have to recover.

If these two estimates were to prove correct, the Liberal vote in Somerset would go up to 268,000; the Conservative vote would go down to 229,000 and the Labour vote would go down to 37,000. That does not seem all that big a change; it does after all forecast that the Conservatives in 1996 will poll 28,000 more than the Liberals did in 1992. Yet the effect on seats would be dramatic. The Liberals would win Bridgwater, Somerton, Taunton, Wansdyke, Wells and Weston-super-Mare. They would hold Bath and Bridgwater with increased majorities. Of the nine seats, the Conservatives would hold only Woodspring, which has the best demography, a good young member, Dr Liam Fox, and an excellent, experienced agent. The result as a whole would be a massacre.

Of course, Somerset has become exceptionally favourable to the Liberal Democrats, but similar effects could be experienced in many other seats in the south west of England. In the region as a whole the Liberals won only six seats in 1992 to the Conservatives' 38, but they won 31.4 per cent of the votes compared with the Conservatives' 47.6 per cent. One cannot be sure that the Liberal vote at the next general election will not equal or even surpass the Conservative throughout the region. Somerset provides only three of the 19 most marginal Conservative seats where the Liberal came second last time.

There are arguments for thinking that once again the hopes of the Liberals will be disappointed. Liberal voters have been volatile in the past and may be so in the future. The government is in a mid-term slough of unpopularity from which it can be expected to recover. The economy has been in a deep and long recession which has made voters hostile to the Conservatives. There is now at least the start of an economic recovery. To some extent I have allowed for these arguments in adopting the 50 per cent and 10 per cent formula, which is lower than the county council swings. That formula could nevertheless prove too favourable to the Liberals; there could be less tactical voting and less of a swing from the Conservatives than I expect. But as one canvasser reported, "if you get Conservatives to the polls, they are voting Liberal".

Both political and economic recovery may be blocked by the deficit and by the connection between the reduction of the deficit and the Maastricht treaty, itself unpopular with many Conservative voters. The deficit is £50 billion, as the public is now beginning to realise. If it is to be brought back to an acceptable level there will have to be further tax increases and massive cuts in public services. Michael Portillo is right to warn people that no area of public expenditure can be regarded as sacred. Yet these expenditure cuts are bound to cut across manifesto commitments, and so are the tax increases. They are both deflationary. While the deficit is being brought under control the recovery will at best be hesitant and there could be another dip.

Unfortunately the government, partly because of the length of the recession, is already one of the most unpopular since opinion polls started, on some measures the most unpopular. There is no reserve of goodwill to draw on, least of all in the West Country, as the county elections showed. If the Conservatives are to recover the ground which has been lost to the Liberals there will have to be a stronger recovery than seems probable and an earlier reduction in the deficit, with smaller cuts in public spending than seem necessary.

No doubt if one started one's local analysis in many other places one would find that Labour is the larger threat. Yet in Somerset people are voting Liberal with an easier mind than they would vote Labour. They do not expect there to be a Liberal Democrat government, so they do not expect the Liberals to have answers to all these very difficult problems. They do regard Labour as the alternative government, but do not really believe that Labour has much better answers than the Conservatives. That attitude could survive until the next election, and we could then find that the Liberal surge is stronger than the Labour one.

Certainly in Somerset there is little sign of a Labour revival; politics both at the council and parliamentary level are rapidly turning into a straight Conservative-Liberal fight, with the two sides about equally matched in ordinary circumstances. If the government did lose the next election, the Conservative party in Somerset would start to recover. We are temperamentally quite a conservative country; it is the Conservatives we are not happy about.

Who can the party count on?

The government's small majority is under threat not only from by-elections but rebellion in the Tory ranks, **Peter Riddell** writes

The least enviable job in government is held not by Norman Lamont but by Richard Ryder. The Tory chief whip may be relieved at the completion of the Commons stages of the Maastricht bill, but his headaches are far from over. To a largely underappreciated extent, the government's already small majority is under threat not just from by-elections but also from the fractiousness of Tory MPs. This could affect both the implementation of policy and the date of the next general election.

That is the real significance of the latest squalls over British Rail privatisation and the possible cuts in public spending programmes being examined by Michael Portillo, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury. Even a hint about limiting exemptions from prescription charges produced warnings from MPs that such proposals would be "dead on arrival" in the Commons. Senior ministers are now commenting gloomily about the *spending round: "I don't know how* we are going to do it."

The government is not assured of a reliable, working majority for a five-year parliament. The Tories' post-election majority of 21 over all parties, now down to 18, would have been sufficient in the past. The Tories easily managed from October 1951 to May 1955 with a majority of 16, and Labour survived for 18 months between the 1964 and 1966 elections on a majority of five.

Governing parties used not to have to worry about by-elections. The Attlee government did not lose any seats in by-elections from 1945 to 1950. In the 1951-55 parliament, the Tories gained a seat and lost only three from 1955 until 1959, even after the Suez crisis. However, the loyalty of voters to parties started to decline in the late 1960s, so that by-elections began to be treated as referendums on the government's record. Labour lost 15 seats between 1966 and 1970; since then, governing parties have lost between four and seven seats each parliament.

It does not matter that the Tories regained all their by-election losses in the last parliament at the April 1992 general election. The relevant point is the potential for losses during a parliament. *The Economist* commissioned an actuary to estimate the likely number of vacancies: 10.73 Tory MPs can be expected to die over a full five-year term, with the number of deaths per year increasing over time. The actual number could be higher or lower.

Although the Tories held the first three seats they defended in the last parliament, they have already lost Newbury in this term, their eighth by-election defeat in a row. The Tories *last held* a seat in February 1989, at Richmond in Yorkshire. So hardly any senior Tories expect a victory in the Christchurch contest.

The Tories face a steady, and possibly rapid, decline in their Commons majority. It would require an exceptionally large number of deaths and continuing deep unpopularity for the Tory majority to disappear completely. But, as *The Economist* concluded, there is a four in ten chance of that happening before 1997. We could easily be back to single-figure majorities.

Past governments have survived on such margins. However, backbenchers are now more rebellious than before the 1970s. These tendencies have been aggravated by the bitter Tory split over Maastricht, in which more than two dozen MPs have voted against the government and a further 20 have abstained. The optimistic ministerial view is that these rebels will now toe the line. Many are concerned only with Europe, but a hard core are not. Several anti-Maastricht MPs joined in the revolt over pit closures last October. Some MPs are so disaffected — still hankering after the Thatcher era — that they do not mind forcing highly embarrassing U-turns. And there are a handful of publicity-seeking populists eager to take up the cause of the day. The government's majority was barely in double figures even on the key votes to extend value-added tax to domestic power. The minority parties cannot be relied on to help, as the Liberal Democrats did on some key votes on the Maastricht bill.

TIM BISHOP

Another headache: Portillo's spending round is fuelling dissent

The government's predicament was summed up by Mr Major ten days ago. "We cannot always grandly sail ahead, oblivious to all. We may have to tack a little here, manoeuvre a little there. That's politics." Necessary measures to cut public borrowing may be hard to take. The latest row has shown the familiar discrepancy between Tory MPs' general expressions of virtue about holding down spending and their unwillingness to support cuts in detail.

Some of the protests reflect the annual ritual of dire Treasury warnings and leaks by spending departments. But the government is not going to find the required savings without tackling these core social programmes. Any shift to benefits targeted on the poor, by limiting the scope of free prescription charges and other universal benefits, is bound to hit traditional middle-class Tory supporters. They will not be silent. Mr Major has to convince his MPs of the overriding priority of cutting borrowing.

The Major government is not alone in having difficulty with his supporters. President Clinton is fighting to prevent fellow Democrats from tinkering too much with his economic programme, while Chancellor Kohl last week warned of the need for harsh cuts in spending.

Some of Mr Major's backbenchers are inclined to behave like American congressmen. Rebellion has become a habit. Appeals to loyalty no longer work. A majority of, say, ten — and the approach of a general election — could be easier to handle than a majority of 21, which gives MPs more apparent freedom to revolt. Perhaps. More likely, however, is that a declining Commons majority, and mini-dramas at 10 o'clock votes not seen since the 1979 election, could seriously erode Mr Major's authority. No wonder that some senior ministers believe the Tories should prepare for an election from the autumn of 1995 onwards — uncomfortably close to the second stage of the extension of VAT in April 1995. Mr Major could find he has few options on election timing.

Bugging Clinton

THE STRAINED relations between President Clinton and John Major are to be tested still further. One of the brightest of the Tory party's campaigners has been hired by the demoralised Republicans to help put them back on their feet after George Bush's overwhelming election defeat.

Bill Clinton has not forgotten Major's support for the Republicans during the election. Nor is he likely to have forgiven the Conservatives for sending two senior cheerleaders to Washington to bolster Bush last year. Sir John Lacy, then the party's campaign director, and Mark Fullbrook, his assistant, advised the Bush camp to concentrate on Clinton's tax plans and to question his patriotism. Now Fullbrook has been hired to advise the Republicans on how to establish a grassroots network of activists similar to the constituency associations here.

While Tory Central Office apparatchiks will try to put some distance between themselves and Fullbrook, he still maintains close links with the party. Only a couple of weeks ago he was knocking on Newbury doors during the by-election, and his new consultancy, Parliamentary Liaison Services, is advising six Tory backbenchers on how to improve their communication skills. "It is an honour to be asked to play a role, no maner how small, in the Republican party," he says. What about a small campaign against Clinton's coiffeur for starters?

● *With Everest behind her, one might have thought that Rebecca Stephens wouldn't be clambering over anything else for the time being. After Saturday's press conference at the Royal Geographical Society in London, however, she was forced to climb out of a window, then scale a skip full of rubbish at the back entrance. All to dodge the latest, seemingly insurmountable, hurdle — a pack of baying journalists.*

DIARY

Sounds good

BRITISH holidaymakers who stay at hotels in Europe will, no doubt, be better informed when the latest Brussels-inspired wheeze takes shape. But it is questionable whether they will have quite as much fun as they are led to expect.

Among the many agencies spawned to deal with the welter of regulations coming out of Brussels is a translation service to sort out what Giles Shepard, managing director of the Savoy Hotel, terms "fractured English". Shepard has spent time culling examples of the problem from hotel literature in Europe.

He flourishes a brochure from Denmark with a warm invitation for guests "to take advantage of the chambermaid". He offers another from Switzerland with stern moral overtones: "Because of the impropriety of entertaining guests of the opposite sex in the bedrooms, it is advised that the lobby be used for this purpose."

Pride of place, however, goes to the Norwegian cocktail bar with an unusual plea on its drinks list: "Ladies are requested not to have children at the bar."

It's a steal

HERE IS a chance for Group 4, which is finally celebrating after its yacht won the last leg of British Steel's round the world challenge. Potters Bar railway station in Hertfordshire needs help with a crime wave, and a private security firm could be just the ticket — unless, of course, railway privatisation is shunted into the sidings.

British Rail's chairman is trying to respond to complaints from a local Tory MP about the crime rate at the station, but he is having difficulty. "Sir Bob Reid wrote back to me a couple of weeks later and told me about what BR had done to tackle vehicle crime at railway stations," said James Clappison, who succeeded Cecil Parkinson as MP for Hertsmere and parks his car at the station before travelling to Westminster.

Sir Bob's letter explained that workmen had been instructed to install security cameras at the car park. But in the middle of work on the £20,000 security system, thieves made off with three of the four new cameras. Back to square one then. Or should that be Group 4?

Grey rights

JOHN MAJOR'S support for the controversial clause 28 of the Local Government Act, which became law five years ago tomorrow, is about to return to haunt him, or more to the point, his old school.

Gay rights activists are appalled by the clause, which prohibits schools or local education authorities from condoning homosexuality. Led by the flamboyant former Labour candidate Peter Tatchell, Outrage is planning to demonstrate outside Rutlish grammar school in south west London. The exact nature of the demonstration is not yet clear, but Tatchell can be expected to surprise his victims. In the past he has roller-skated into Westminster Abbey, staged artificial crucifixions, and "outed" famous soldiers.

"Not only will we be giving out leaflets objecting to the legislation," Tatchell says, "we will be inviting the pupils to join the Gay Pride rally in London next month." John Patten's former school is next on their list.

United they park: Evans and Clwyd agree on something

Extremes meet on a double yellow

A MOST unlikely meeting of minds took place last week when David Evans, the brash Tory MP for Welwyn and Hatfield, complained about car parking facilities in the House of Commons. Labour's Ann Clwyd, shadow heritage secretary, agrees with him — something should be done about it, she says. It was an exasperated Clwyd, you will remember, who was severely ticked off last year after parking her car on a spot reserved for the Speaker. Evans, who regards most of his own party as on the left, sympathises: "It's pretty well impossible to park if there's a three-line whip." But there ends this happy union of political opposites. Clwyd's solution to the proposal is for ministers, each with their own ministerial car, to give up their spaces. "They could have a shuttlebus to bring them in from their departments. It would be like a school run." Evans's proposal is more radical — that members of the Labour party revert to bicycles.

هكذا من الأصل

SHAMEFUL RETREAT

The Bosnian agreement is a western surrender in all but name

The relief in Western capitals is as palpable as it will be shortlived. Ministers believe that after weeks of embarrassed incoherence, they have steered policy on Bosnia into a safe haven. Bosnians will have no such haven, nor was that the real aim of this cobbled agreement: the politicians were out to save diplomatic face, not Bosnian lives. Yet even by that shaming yardstick, this cynical embrace of expediency fails, since the West has by no means extricated itself from the consequences of its refusal to confront the seizing of territory by force. As President Clinton came close to saying, this is the worst of worlds, an almost certain prelude to further humiliation.

What has been decided amounts to a haphazard scheme for dividing Bosnia-Herzegovina without admitting that this is happening. Hawks will now have the upper hand, because Serb and Croat hardliners who have argued that the West was bluffing have been proved right. For all the talk about "a lasting and equitable settlement" the allies have implicitly given them the go-ahead to finish carving out their ethnic states. If this was the West's policy, as there are reasons to suspect that in Europe it has been, to have said so a year ago would have been less disgraceful than to hint at military intervention, while 200,000 civilians died and more than 2½ million lives were ruined.

This weekend's communique is full of what diplomats call skilful language and the plain man calls lies. The "safe areas" will not be safe at all. They will exist only where Serbs and Croats give permission to Unprofor troops to enter them, which will be forthcoming only when it suits the besiegers. The Bosnian Serb leader, Radovan Karadzic, graciously promises to co-operate "provided that our sovereignty is respected". The plan then requires Unprofor to disarm the inhabitants, but not the besiegers, who are not even required to withdraw artillery. The offer of American air cover applies only to UN troops, not Bosnian civilians.

Similarly, the allies say they will "insist" that humanitarian aid is unobstructed. But since they are not prepared to use force, they know that its delivery will be hostage, as before, to the whim of local gunmen. The Serbs have conquered almost all the land they want; the Croats are still hungry. Immediate sanctions on Croatia unless fighting ceases would, in this sorry catalogue of half-measures, have been something: instead, the Washington meeting agreed only that the Croats "should be on notice" that this could, in some unspecified future, be the result of continued "ethnic cleansing".

Meantime, the Croatian and Serbian governments are to be given a veto over the one potentially useful step agreed: the sealing of the Bosnian borders. Here was a genuine point of leverage, since this is the official policy of Serbia's president, Slobodan Milosevic. Enforced, it could curtail the ferocity of the war. But the allies, who know goods are thundering across at several points, pretend to be waiting "to see if the border closure is effective". They might consider sending UN monitors, who could do no more than record violations — at the cost of becoming potential hostages.

The Western Europeans are now back where they started before Mr Clinton proclaimed America's determination to exercise leadership: relying on diplomatic pressures and economic sanctions in which they have no faith. Mr Hurd, visibly relaxed, maintains that the objective of Serb withdrawal is unchanged and that the West is "building on the Vance-Owen process". Yet even he admits that "how long it will take the penny to drop, those withdrawals to take place, I cannot tell you." A thousand more lives lost, Mr Hurd, or a hundred thousand?

Truth would at least acknowledge that the West's simulacrum of a Balkan policy has been led by domestic opinion polls, and so led because there is no will to face the larger questions of managing security in Europe. The outcome in Washington could hardly be worse for the Bosnians, but this is not the extent of the damage done. The entire process of stepping to the edge of intervention, only to retreat, has fearful implications. President Clinton's first foray into foreign policy has squandered America's prestige. Isolationism, often invoked, can no longer be treated as a theoretical hypothesis.

SPENDING SHIBBOLETHS

Piecemeal economies spell as much trouble as radical reforms

Even before the much-heralded war over public spending has started, the government seems almost ready to run up the white flag. When Michael Portillo, the chief secretary to the Treasury, said on radio yesterday that his review of public spending would "stick to all manifesto pledges", he presumably thought he was playing safe. But by backing off from a broad-based attack on the principle of untargeted social payments, the government exposes itself to ultimate defeat.

The way to build public support for an ambitious fiscal agenda is not by small piecemeal changes, but by presenting a coherent package in which the broad gains for society are as visible as the losses for particular groups. The government has little chance of doing this if it excludes changes to the most expensive items of untargeted public spending — child benefits and basic state pensions. Taxing child benefits would be a move in the right direction. But presented individually, and with no strategic context, small savings will bring limited financial benefit, while exposing the government to as much opprobrium as a much wider strategy for public sector reform.

Worse still, the piecemeal approach will make it impossible for the government to deploy its most persuasive argument for cuts in cherished categories of public spending. This argument is not the £50 billion government deficit, which is mainly due to recession and can only be substantially reduced through economic growth. Neither is it demographic pressure, since the number of retired people in Britain has now stabilised and will not start to grow significantly until about 2010. Radical reforms are necessary because society demands improvement in such areas as health, education and transport investment. Other expenditures must therefore be cut back if the total tax burden is to be tolerable and public borrowing controlled.

Much of the extra money needed to keep pace with society's demands for better health and education should be found by making economies within these budgets. But in the long term, this is unlikely to be enough. Either extensive charging will have to be introduced for medicine and education or large sums will have to be recycled from other public spending programmes. With defence spending already falling sharply, child benefits and basic state pensions are the only budgets big enough to make a significant contribution.

The case for high quality universal health and education systems seems stronger than the case for universal child benefits. But what about basic state pensions? These cost £27 billion a year, yet their value has declined dramatically in relation to average earnings and is below the minimum income level guaranteed by means-tested income support. Since today's workers have to save privately for the lion's share of their retirement income in any case, should the government accelerate this process? Would people prefer to save for their own retirement or pay for their own medical care?

Politics is about priorities, and these are the kind of questions the government should now have the courage to ask the nation. Manifesto commitments sometimes have to be abandoned, as this government knows only too well. The government's most important responsibilities are competent economic management and wise stewardship of the public sector. That means the courage to be radical about public spending.

INFERNAL VERSE

To travel poetically is almost as good as to arrive

Were there elbow-room on the Circle Line, this suspect parcel were no crime. And love could make the world go round for us worms of London Underground. But at my back I still advert a garbled security alert. Thus, though we cannot move our train, our journey will not be in vain.

The success of short poems displayed among the toothpaste and Tampax advertisements on the Underground shows that the British still love their finest art, and are hungry for it. It also suggests that the congestion and erratic delays of the system provide a classroom to reintroduce the captive audience to the delights of literature.

The 25th set of poems, which ranges from Andrew Marvell soothing enraged commuters with his green thought to the 40-year-old Chinese poet Bei Dao, are now going up on advertising spaces provided free by London Underground, supported by the British Council and the British Library. The scheme has been copied around the world, from New York to Sydney.

A connection between love poetry and public transport is not obvious. It is true that Orlando broadcast his verses to Rosalind as haphazardly as the London Underground, but he was in the Forest of Arden. Hanging odes upon hawthorns and elegies on brambles seems more romantic than sticking them up among the graffiti.

The Underground is the epitome of the modern urban working world, and the antithesis of conventional notions of poetry. But poetry can flourish in unexpected places. One of the first poems of Western literature sends Orpheus underground by escalator to recover his wife. The lovers, Paolo and Francesca, were whirled infernally underground as restlessly as the crowds changing platforms at Camden Town. And Kipling wrote, with more truth than poetry, of heathen heart that puts her trust in reeking Tube.

A poem on the Underground has charms to sooth the savage breast of the commuter who has just been told his train has been switched to the Metropolitan Line. The poems provide an opportunity for the neglected discipline and delight of learning verse by heart. To memorise a sonnet between King's Cross and Archway refreshes the parts that commercial advertisements cannot reach. But as the delays on the Underground become longer and more frequent, the poems also need to be made longer than four-liners by Dorothy Parker.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Export efforts in need of support

From the Director-General of the Institute of Export

Sir, Next Thursday the foreign secretary is due to deliver a speech at Chatham House on "Britain's Foreign Service in a changing world". I trust that he will not endorse the shortsighted and misleading views which you expressed on May 4, welcoming the possibility that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office intends to contract out commercial research work.

The Treasury, it seems to me, views any form of export promotion or support as a "subsidy" and therefore a bad thing. It is clearly the Treasury that is behind the decision to "market-test" — i.e., to prepare for privatisation.

Pragmatism, not dogmatism, is what is required. Ten years ago many embassies and high commissions were centres of "gin and tonic diplomacy". But pressure from professional exporters and change of management style at the FCO have led to far greater commercial awareness on the part of FCO staff.

Privately conducted market research is likely to cost companies significantly more than the amount currently charged by the Overseas Trade Services department. Estimates suggest anything from 300 per cent to 1,000 per cent more. This will make it even less likely that small and medium-sized enterprises will take up export opportunities.

Private concerns will clearly not enjoy the level of access available to accredited diplomats — especially vital when major public-sector projects are under discussion. Early information on a potential project is vital if companies are to be ready to tender — often at very short notice — when bids are sought. Whilst there may be some professional organisations capable of delivering the quality of research currently supplied in OECD markets, the likelihood of finding them in the developing world (still major markets for UK) is remote.

Contracting-out would undermine the whole strategy towards which we have been encouraging government over the past ten years. If the UK is to export its way out of recession and gain a larger share of world trade than the current 8 per cent, positive government support is essential.

But this support must be more cohesive and focused. We already suffer a dilution of effort from having no fewer than 15 separate government departments or agencies, each with aspects of export promotion as part of its brief. Add to that different private-sector research or promotion companies handling different sectors or different projects in each market and chaos will prevail.

Yours faithfully,
IAN J. CAMPBELL,
Director-General, Institute of Export,
Export House, 64 Clifton Street, EC2.
May 20.

Bombed church

From Mr Michael Davies

Sir, I have a great interest in historic churches, and perhaps there is a case for the resurrection of St Ethelburga's Bishopsgate, in some form. What is certain is that the money for this should oot be raised by appeals (which should be reserved for more pressing projects): rather it must come from the disposal of one of the many other redundant churches — a prime example for the Church to cut its coat according to its cloth.

Yours faithfully,
M. S. DAVIES,
The Forest, Benenden, Kent.

Image of Masai

From the Acting High Commissioner for Kenya

Sir, The Masai warriors (*moran*) described by Sam Kiley in his report of May 8, headed "Thuggery taints Masai image", are extremely few in number. It would be quite unfair to condemn the Masai community as a whole on the strength of the anti-social activities of this small group.

I also flatly deny allegations that the government commissions these ruffians to attack opposition supporters. President Moi's nationwide support was freely and democratically won and there is oo intention of forming a front to take on the opposition.

Yours sincerely,
M. NGALI,
Kenya High Commission,
45 Portland Place, W1.

Law and order, justice and the role of the Home Office

From Mr Chris Butler and Mr Tim Janman

Sir, During the course of the last criminal justice bill through Parliament, as back-bench Conservative members of the bill committee we warned the then Home Office minister, John Patten, of the dangers of higher reoffending as a result of punishing habitual offenders in the community and of the courts not being able to take previous offences into account, even of habitual offenders, except in very restricted circumstances.

To be fair, Mr Patten admitted he could not guarantee that punishment in the community would work, and hoped we would not say to him in a couple of years: "I told you so. You have made it worse, not better." (Hansard report of standing committees, December 6, 1990, col 119). We are sorry to say that this act did make it worse.

Such failure, however, cannot absolve the Labour party from a charge of hypocrisy for its recent attempts to criticise these aspects of the act.

The Labour MP, Alun Michael, claimed in the bill committee that only "a small number of offenders ... repeatedly offend" (Hansard report of standing committees, December 6, 1990, col 121), and even called for omitting "the provision enabling courts to consider the circumstances of previous offences when assessing the seriousness of the current offence" (Hansard report of standing committees, December 11, 1990, col 152).

Mr Michael is a Labour Home Office spokesman. Labour claims to be tough on crime (report, "Blair puts law and order at the top of the agenda for Labour", February 6) but the spoken record shows that they would have instituted a system with even less protection for the citizen against habitual offenders than now exists.

Yours etc,
CHRIS BUTLER
(MP for Warrington South, 1987-92),
TIM JANMAN
(MP for Thurrock, 1987-92),
Flat 2, 48 Clifton Gardens, W9.

From Mr and Mrs Ralph Gilmore

Sir, Although we sympathise with Leslie Oliver's complaint (letter, May 17) about the cost of ensuring that his staff attended training courses on the Criminal Justice Act 1991, some thought might be given to the lay justices who were obliged to attend two days of training last year. Justices are oot paid for their court attendance, let alone for training sessions which are now obligatory.

The application of the unit fine system has brought the law into ridicule and the magistracy into disrepute, but abolition of the system (report, May 14) is surely going too far. When the pilot scheme was tried out the range of the value of the units was more restricted than under the present system. Perhaps all that is now needed is to reduce the range and extend the expenses to be deducted in assessing an offender's disposable weekly income.

In the meantime magistrates are obliged to apply the law as enacted by Parliament. How in all conscience can we be expected to adjudicate and sentence under a system which we know is unfair and is to be abolished, and in the knowledge that its application must inevitably result in yet further cases going to appeal?

Yours faithfully,
RALPH GILMORE,
CAROL GILMORE,
8 Grove End Road,
St John's Wood, NW8.

From Mr David Goodenday, JP

Sir, Your leading article (May 14) properly praises the home secretary's speedy action to rectify the obvious errors in the Criminal Justice Act. However, you are surely wrong to conclude that all is forgiven.

The nonsenses were just as glaring when the act was produced. Magistrates were subjected to a most intensive 12 hours' training, using a centrally produced training kit. There was major emphasis on the absence of judicial discretion in relation to the assessment of unit fines and the ignoring of past offences. It was very clear that magistrates were being placed in a ridiculous and unjust situation.

The public perception of the law and the judiciary has been damaged by Home Office incompetence. This needs to be stated whatever steps are now taken to restore the situation to what h was before.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GOODENDAY,
Bunkers Dip, Neville Drive, N2.
May 14.

From Mrs J. M. Baker, JP

Sir, When I was in training to become a JP we were given guidance from Magna Carta on the principles involved when imposing a financial penalty in court. This was to the effect that a free man should be fined (amerced) only in proportion to the degree of his offence, whether trivial or serious, but not so heavily as to deprive him of his status, or livelihood.

Yours faithfully,
JUDITH M. BAKER,
59 The Broadway,
Tynemouth, North Shields,
Tyne and Wear.
May 17.

Theatre collections

From Mr Donald Sinden

Sir, Your article, "Final act in a historical tragedy?" (Arts, May 13), implied there was no other resource like the Mander and Mitchenson Theatre Collection. There is, of course, though it is much larger — the Theatre Museum in Covent Garden, Britain's national museum of the performing arts. Instead of appearing to close the door on further discussion, the writer of the article should be encouraging a dialogue between the two organisations.

The Theatre Museum has the world's largest and most important collection of material documenting the British stage, and provides an excellent research and information service to theatre professionals. It also has a thriving education unit and public displays. Cameron Mackintosh and the Really Useful Group have sponsored a very exciting design for a new museum gallery, and the profession has given its full backing to the museum's recently launched National Video Archive of Stage Performance.

An excellent home might be found for the M&M collection at the Theatre Museum. With money so short, many of us in the profession think it would be wise to pool resources and find a way to unite two complementary collections.

Whichever solution M&M choose, it is essential that vital energy and resources are not wasted and the two organisations work closely together.

Yours truly,
DONALD SINDEN,
60 Temple Fortune Lane, NW11.
May 18.

Lyme Regis upset

From Mr Colin Rogers

Sir, I am sorry that officials in Lyme Regis, Dorset, were "upset because Lyme was not mentioned in the credits" of our film of Mary Wesley's *Harnessing Peacocks* oo ITV last Sunday (report, May 13). Nevertheless, it would be completely impractical to give screen credits to the places used in televisioo drama when a two-hour film may use 30 or more different locations in the course of production.

I am equally concerned that the Isles of Scilly Tourist Information Centre felt it was an insult to film in Lyme Regis scenes set in the Isles of Scilly. If all fiction on television was filmed where the story takes place, there would be considerably less of it: the costs would prohibitive. The substitution of alternative locations is a common (and sensible) practice and most viewers are content to have their disbelief suspended.

Does it matter to the viewer that much of *Inspector Morse* was filmed in west London, not Oxford? Or that *EastEnders'* Albert Square lies in leafy Hertfordshire, not the East End? Is h an insult to the Iberian peninsula that *Sharpe* was filmed in the Crimea?

Not as insulting, I suspect, as filming *Eldorado* in the real Spain and making h look like Albert Square.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN ROGERS
(Controller of Drama),
Meridian Broadcasting Ltd,
48 Leicester Square, WC2.
May 14.

Heroine in space

From Miss R. Yeoman

Sir, I have followed with enthusiasm your extensive coverage of the conquest of Everest by the first British woman, Rebecca Stephens (reports, May 18, 19, 20). However, it adds to the puzzlement I felt when there appeared to be only grudging comment after Helen Sharman became not only the first British woman, but the first Briton, in space (report, May 19, 1991). Her achievement went largely ignored, except by children's television programmes.

Why does space travel no longer merit the excitement and interest it once did, whereas that surrounding the climbing of Everest remains undiminished 40 years later?

Yours faithfully,
R. YEOMAN,
83 Rowan Lea, Lee Village,
Chatham, Kent.

Women priests

From Professor Dennis Nineham

Sir, Since the media have given so much prominence to the principles and objections of those who disapprove of the decision by the Church of Eogland that women may be ordained to the priesthood, it may not be otiose to point out that the great majority of Anglicans believe that the synod has ample authority for what it has done and that it was absolutely right to do it.

No doubt the current negotiations about the upshot are necessary, but it would be sad indeed if what is for most of us a ground for celebration and unfeigned thankfulness were to become simply the cause of an unseemly wrangle.

Yours faithfully,
D. E. NINEHAM,
Keble College, Oxford.
May 14.

High-tech milk

From Mr G. Eyre

Sir, Mr George Gibson (letter, May 12) says mastitis, lameness, reproductive disorders and milk fever are rife in high-performance herds of cattle. These common ailments occur just as frequently in low-production herds and in any case were much worse in the past. They have largely been brought under control by advances in veterinary science and are not the result of modern animal husbandry, as Mr Gibson implies.

Hampshire Cattle Breeders pioneered the use of artificial insemination in cattle almost 50 years ago specifically to overcome the horrendous genital tract diseases that prevented conception or resulted in deformities or stillbirth. These diseases were long ago eradicated in the UK and the opportunity this presented to breed new healthy stocks has resulted in bigger and stronger animals able to withstand the demands of higher milk and meat production.

In addition, modern dairy hygiene bas extended the shelf life of milk from barely 24 hours to many days. This applies also to the secondary yields of cheese and meat.

All similar attempts to increase milk production in underdeveloped countries with new and effective technology should be encouraged. Good luck to Dr Epstein (letter, May 6) in Africa.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY EYRE,
Breeding Services Division,
AI Centre, Lyndhurst, Hampshire.
May 12.

Soldiers under stress

From the President of the British Psychological Society

Sir, To equate distress, the "normal human emotion", with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), as Simon Wessely did in "The Stress of Peacekeeping" (Body and Mind, May 18), trivialises what is a serious and debilitating condition. I applaud the action taken by the Cheshire Regiment in both recognising that returning soldiers may suffer from PTSD and setting up a service of diagnosis and counselling.

Yours faithfully,
ANN COLLEY, President,
The British Psychological Society,
48 Princess Road East, Leicester.
May 18.

Grade's move

From Mr Andrew Knight, Chairman, News International

Sir, In congratulating you on *The Times* royal debate, may I also commend to your readers Mr Michael Grade, chief executive of Channel 4, who was your partner in televising this important event.

Mr Grade has also personally ensured that Channel 4 be *The Times's* partner in your forthcoming world chess championship.

For someone who last week said that your publisher News International's newspapers had lowered standards in this country, and a week earlier that Mr Rupert Murdoch set himself the limits of the Yorkshire Ripper, Mr Grade seems to have travelled far In a fortnight.

Yours,
ANDREW KNIGHT,
Chairman, News International,
Virginia Street, E1.
May 23.

Infertility research

From Dr Y. W. Loke

Sir, Your leader on infertility (May 12) is most timely. The lack of clinical facilities is mirrored by a lack of research funding into this condition. Because society has not decided if infertility is an illness, it does not have the same emotional impact as some of the "real" diseases, such as cancer or heart disease. Yet infertility is a far more important condition than realised, for it represents merely one end of a spectrum of diseases affecting women throughout pregnancy, including miscarriage, poor foetal growth, toxaemia and stillbirth. My research group believes that defective implantation of the placenta is ultimately responsible in many cases.

At present, almost oothing is known about the process of normal implantation and until this information is available we will not understand why it fails. Perhaps Professor Richard Lilford's plea (report, May 11) that the infertile should receive priority for treatment could be extended to include research into this condition.

Yours truly,
Y. W. LOKE,
University of Cambridge,
Department of Pathology,
Research Group in Human
Reproductive Immunobiology,
Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

Team in harmony

From Mr T. J. S. Patterson

Sir, From the discussion on team sports and machismo (letters, May 15) h is clear that what is needed is to combine the virtues of a structured team sport with the development of individuality.

What better than the string quartet? Four players, each with an individual part, strive to combine to produce something greater than the sum of their four voices.

If this lacks fresh air, you can always open the window; if h is exercise you seek, try the last movement of Beethoven's Opus 59 No 3.

Yours faithfully,
T. J. S. PATTERSON,
80 St Bernard's Road, Oxford.
May 15.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 22: By command of The Queen, the Viscount Astor (Lord in Waiting) will be present at Gatwick Airport, London, this morning upon the Departure of the Governor-General of Grenada and Lady Palmer and will bid farewell to Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

By command of The Queen, the Viscount Astor (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this afternoon upon the Arrival of The President of the Republic of Uganda and Mrs Museveni and welcomed His Excellency and Mrs Museveni on behalf of Her Majesty.

May 22: The Duke of York today visited Aberlour House, Aberlour, Banffshire, and was received by Mrs Oliver Russell (Deputy Lieutenant of Banffshire).

Captain Ruper Maidand-Titterton was in attendance.

May 23: The Prince Edward this evening attended a "Tribute to Joe Loss" Concert in support of Outreach, the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Greater Manchester (Colonel John Timmins). Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 23: The Princess of Wales, Patron, British Red Cross Youth, this afternoon visited the refugee centre, Fawsley House, Hillmorton Road, Rugby, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Warwickshire (Captain the Viscount Daventry).

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
May 22: Princess Alexandra, Patron, and the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy this evening attended the Kew Guild Centenary Reception and Dinner at the Natural History Museum, London SW7.

Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
RICHMOND PARK
May 23: Princess Alexandra, Patron of the National Kidney Research Fund, this morning started the annual "Walk Across London's Bridges", in aid of the Fund and the Kidney Foundation, in Battersea Park, London SW11.

Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit the Chelsea Flower Show at 5.30.

The Princess Royal, Princess Margaret, as President of the NSPCC and the Royal Horticultural Society, the Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Kent will also visit the show.

The Prince of Wales, as President of the Mary Rose Trust, will give a reception at Highgrove House at 6.00.

The Princess of Wales, Patron of the BOC Covent Garden Festival, will attend a performance of *The Magic Flute* at Freemasons' Hall at 6.50. The Duke of Kent, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, will also attend.

The Princess Royal, as Patron of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, will attend a vice-president's dinner at the Shell Centre at 6.30.

The Duke of Gloucester will attend the Northamptonshire 2000 Conference at the Derngate Centre, Northampton, at 9.15.

Memorial services

Dr Reynold Higgins
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Dr Reynold Higgins was held on Saturday at St Mary's, Dunsfold, Surrey. The Rev Bryan Paradise officiated.

Lady Grierson
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Lady Grierson will be held at the Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, W1, at 11am on Friday, June 18.

Mr Keith Tarling
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Keith Tarling will be held in the Chapel at Yarlet on Sunday, June 27, at 3.00pm. Those intending to be present are asked to notify Mr N. Ellis, 29 Old Rectory Road, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 8PF.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Gabriel Daniel Fahrenheit, inventor of the mercury thermometer, Gdansk, 1686; Jean Paul Marat, revolutionary, Neuchatel, Switzerland, 1743; William Whewell, philosopher and scientist, Lancaster, 1794; Thomas Duncan, painter, Kinclaven, Perthshire, 1807; Albert Smith, writer and lecturer, Chertsey, Surrey, 1816; John Henry Foley, sculptor, Dublin, 1818; Queen Victoria, reigned 1837-1901, Kensington Palace, 1819; Sir Arthur Wing Pinero, dramatist, London, 1855; Jan Christiaan Smuts, Prime Minister of South Africa 1919-24 and 1939-48, Riebeck West, Cape Colony, 1870.

DEATHS: David I, King of Scotland 1124-53, Carlisle, 1153; Copernicus, astronomer, Frombork, Poland, 1543; Robert Cecil, 1st Earl of Salisbury, statesman, Marlborough, Wiltshire, 1612; Jane Porter, novelist, Bristol, 1850; William Lloyd Garrison, abolitionist, New York, 1879; Samuel Palmer, landscape painter, Reigate, 1881; Archibald Wavell, 1st Earl Wavell, field marshal, Viceroy of India 1943-47, London, 1950; John Foster Dulles, US Secretary of State 1953-59, Washington, 1959; Duke Ellington, pianist and bandleader, New York, 1974.

London's Westminster Bridge opened, 1862.

HMS Hood was sunk by the Bismarck off Greenland, 1941.

Oliver Van Oss

The life of Oliver Van Oss, as Headmaster of Charterhouse and Master of The Charterhouse, will be celebrated by his friends and pupils in poetry and music at The Charterhouse, London, EC1, on Tuesday, June 15, 1993, at 7.30pm. Those who would like an invitation please write to: The Recorder, Charterhouse, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 2DF.

Chelsea Flower Show

Drought-resistant garden whets appetite

By Alan Toogood, Horticulture Correspondent

THE Chelsea Flower Show opens tomorrow and runs until Friday. Now in its 80th year, can it possibly offer anything different or has it all been done before?

Competition among the garden makers to create the best outdoor garden and win the Fiskars Sword of Excellence appears to be fiercer than ever and we are, therefore, promised some outstanding and inspired gardens among the 24 on display.

Pershore College of Horticulture, Hereford and Worcester, last year's winner of the Fiskars award, is going all out to retain its title with a golden garden entitled A Touch of Midas, containing yellow and variegated plants.

Pershore faces stiff competition, though, from another horticultural college, Merrist Wood, of Worplesdon, Surrey, which has created a drought-resistant garden to show what can be done to prepare gardens for global warming and water restrictions.

The largest collection of wild maritime plants (trees, shrubs and flowers) ever to be brought to Chelsea can be seen in the Seascape garden created by Julie Toll, of Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

Miniature gardens are not often seen at Chelsea, so the series of tiny gardens — including cottage, rose, Italian, Japanese and knot gardens — from the Miniature Landscape Company of Ilminster, Somerset, will make a refreshing change and give plenty of ideas for gardening on a small scale.

In the great marquee, which houses hundreds of flower and plant displays, the large range of modern pelargoniums shown by Fibrex Nurseries of Pebworth, Warwickshire, is particularly noteworthy because the plants have been brought from Germany where they were raised behind the Berlin Wall by a courageous grower, William Elsner from Dresden, whose nursery was confiscated by the communist regime.

There are also fruit and vegetable exhibits, but perhaps the most unusual for Chelsea is the collection of citrus fruits from Principally Plants of Pulborough, West Sussex.

There are many exhibitors from overseas, among them Zimbabwe which, in spite of the worst drought in living memory last year, has returned for its fourth year at Chelsea with an even wider display of its native flora.

As this is the Royal Horticultural Society's Education Year, there is even more support for the educational and scientific section, where visitors can improve their knowledge on a range of subjects — from Kew's plant conservation programme, to micro propagation, biological control of greenfly and the importance of earthworms.

Chelsea, then, is as fresh as ever, offering plenty that is new or different but also much that is traditional and well loved.

Opening times: private viewing by Royal Horticultural Society members tomorrow and Wednesday from 8am to 8pm, and Thursday from 8am to 3.30pm. Public viewing Thursday, from 3.30pm to 8pm and Friday from 8am to 5pm. Admission by ticket only bought in advance. The show information line, 071 828 1744, gives up-to-date details on ticket availability. For credit card bookings, telephone 071 379 4443.

Liz McColgan, the athlete, is 29 today

Birthdays today

Sir James Anderton, former chief constable, Greater Manchester, 61; Mr Stanley Baxter, comedian, 67; the Duke of Bedford, 76; Sir Timothy Bevan, director, Barclays Bank, 66; Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, 76; Sir Roden Cutler, VC, diplomat, 77; Mr Bob Dylan, singer, 52; Miss Kathleen Hale, author and illustrator, 95; Mr B.L. Hallward, former vice-chancellor, Nottingham University, 92; Dame Joan Hammond, opera and concert singer, 81; Sir Terence Heiser, civil servant, 61; Sir Derek Hodgson, former High Court judge, 76; Baroness Hollis of Heigham, 52; Mr Clifford Irving, former chairman, executive council, Isle of Man Government, 79; Colonel John Mayo, director-general, Help the Aged, 62; Mr Adrian Moorhouse, swimmer, 29; Mr Tony Mullett, former director general, National Criminal Intelligence Service, 60; Mr Luke Rittner, former secretary general, Arts Council of Great Britain, 46; Sir Edmund Sargant, solicitor, 87; Lord Justice Staughton, 60; Mr William Trevor, writer, 65; Mr Arnold Wesker, playwright, 61; the Earl of Woolton, 35; Miss Mai Zetterling, actress, 68.

Fleur de Fleurs luncheon

Dame Barbara Cartland will be the guest of honour at the Fleur de Fleurs luncheon on May 27 at the Dorchester hotel in aid of the Royal Marsden Hospital Fund. Tickets are available from Mr Jeremy Ward 071-352 4686.

Turners' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Turners' Company for the ensuing year:
Master, Mr P.F.W. Venn; Upper Warden, Mr A.C. Hamilton; Renter Warden, Mr G M. Sloan.

Appointment

Dr Humayun Khan, Pakistan's former High Commissioner to Britain, is to be Director of the Commonwealth Foundation.

School news

Abingdon School
The following Scholarship elections have been made for 1993:
Mercers' Company Scholarship: M.I. Lloyd, New College S.
Foundation Major Scholarships: M.J. Hodgson, Christ Church Cathedral S; O.S. Cundell, Dragon S.
Foundation Minor Scholarship: J.M. Weeks, St Hugh's S.
Foundation Exhibitions: A.J. Molyneux, Dragon S; C.B. Schmidt, Manchester Grammar S; W.J. Bollin, Dragon S/Abingdon S.
Duxbury Boarding Scholarship: M.I.A. Jones, Winchester House S.
Major Music Scholarships: M.J. Hodgson, Christ Church Cathedral S; D.G.D. Pearson, Basildon PS/Abingdon S.
Minor Music Scholarships: H.C.S. Robson, New College S; M.D.B. Pritchard, Summer Fields/Abingdon S (Honorary Scholarship).
Music Exhibitions: S.R. Atkinson, Sutton Courtenay PS; T.S. Coe, Ferndale S; P.F. Harrison, Long Wittenham CES/Abingdon S.
Art and Design Exhibition: T.C. Frankum, St Nicolas CES/Abingdon School.

Cranleigh School
Scholarships for 1993 have been awarded to the following:
Sixth Form Academic: A. Devendra, United World College of SE Asia, Singapore; Louise A. Elberton, Tormead School, Guildford; Katherine Fawkner-Corbett, St Catherine's, Bramley; Lotje Sodderland, Clayesmore School, Blandford; Jaimee Broome, St Catherine's, Bramley.
Sixth Form Music Scholarship: Louella J. Voy, Manor House School, Little Bookham.
Sixth Form Exhibitions: Amy Cunningham-Reid, S Michael's, Burton Park; Cecile Pelly, Marist Convent, Sunninghill.
Fourth Form Academic: T.J. Service, St Andrews, Woking; D. Chok Tourle, St Aubyns, Rottingdean; D.R. Max, Cranleigh Preparatory School; T.R.H. Gilchrist, Cranleigh Preparatory School; C.C. Poo, Cranleigh Preparatory School; G.E. Micklewright, Chinthurst; S.W. Worthy, Hall Grove School; D.A. Barnes, St Christophers, Hove.
A deferred award for entry in September 1994 has been made to F.J.R. Handcock, Hall Grove School.
Fourth Form Music: J.A. Bradley, St Andrew's, Horsell; D. Chok Tourle, St Aubyns, Rottingdean; D.C. Camp, Cranleigh Preparatory School.
Fourth Form Art Exhibition: E.J. Harris, Aldro.

Hampton School
The Governors, Headmaster and Staff at Hampton School invite those Old Hamptonians who attended the School between 1975 and 1980 to a Reunion on Friday, July 2, 1993. Invitations may be obtained from the Headmaster's Secretary at the School on 081 979 5526.

Latymer Upper School
1993 Scholarships
The following boys have been awarded Entrance Scholarships for September.
Academic Scholarships: Leo Critchley, Fox Primary School; Richard Douglas, Latymer Preparatory Department; Paul Garver, Gladstone Park Primary School; Jonathan Glassman, Latymer Preparatory Department; Majuran Manoharandra, John Perryn Combined First & Middle School; Marc Mentior, North Ealing First & Middle School; John Samuelson, Latymer Preparatory Department; Daniel Stanton, West Lodge Middle School; Sam Towrow, Latymer Preparatory Department.
Music Scholarships: Timothy Isted, Latymer Preparatory Department; Voytek Stanley, Latymer Preparatory Department.

Westminster School
The Challenge:
The following have been elected to Queen's Scholarships:
S Lipetz (Westminster Under School), M Ganesalingam (King's College School), N A Imboden (King's College School), S S C Tang (Westminster Under School), J W H Clifford (The Mall School), E J Tyerman (Orley Farm School), A Abedi (Westminster Under School), E J Watts (Westminster Under School), S T W O'Brien (Claremont School).
The following have been awarded Honorary Scholarships:
T P J Edlin (Lyndhurst House School), J R Monroe (Dulwich College Preparatory School).
Music Scholarships:
E J Cook (Westminster Under School), N A Imboden (King's College School).
Music Awards:
M S J Berkery-Mirodan (Westminster Cathedral Choir School), T N D Drury (Westminster Under School), J H K Guonelt (Westminster Under School), A Kaye (Dulwich College Preparatory School).
Sixth Form Entrance:
The following have been awarded Scholarships or received Awards:
Mina Bar-Isaac (South Hampstead High School) funded by the Bernard Sunley Foundation, G S M Gatehouse (Tiffin School), N Gulamhuseinwala (St Benedict's School, Ealing) funded by the Emmott Foundation, Barbara Jeffery (Godolphin & Latymer School) funded by the Rayne Foundation, C J R Medvei (King Edward VI School, Norwich) funded by the Emmott Foundation, Olufunmilola Solebo (Palmers Green High School) funded by the Bernard Sunley Foundation.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy and Royal Marines
COMMODORE: C J Freeman - Cornwall Capt F/CO 03.9.93.
CAPTAIN: H J Critchley - Sultan as CAIB 24.09.93; J B Sadler - MOD USA 24.09.93.
SURGEON CAPTAIN: C W Evans - RNH Plymouth 26.10.93.
COMMANDER: R P Barton - Staff of FONA 05.11.93; T H V Clark - MOD London 04.10.93; J P S Greenop - RNAS Yeovilton 26.11.93; G R Johnson - Raleigh 10.12.93; A J G Miller - Ark Royal 01.10.93; 1 C Schreiber - Staff of FONA 11.5.93.
SURGEON COMMANDER: A S C Allison - Fearless 27.08.93.
CHAPLAIN: S J Golding - Drake 12.10.93; B K Hammett - Staff of FO Portsmouth 08.10.93.

The Army
BRIGADIER: T J Sullivan - To MOD, 28.05.93.
COLONEL: S B Davies late QARANC to DKMH Catterick as Matron 1.06.93; M E Mulhern late QARANC to QEMH Woolwich as Matron 15.02.93.
LIEUTENANT COLONEL: S I Green AGC(ETS) - To HQ ETS UK, 24.05.93; P D McLelland PWRR - To HQ UKLF, 24.05.93; J G Donaldson RAMC to QEMH 01.06.93; J S Lloyd RAMC to BMH Hong Kong 02.06.93; R J McCormick RADC to 7 Dent Gp 31.05.93.
Retirements
LIEUTENANT COLONEL: D K Maciver RAMC 31.05.93; A M Morrey RAMC 31.05.93; B K Reece-Russel RAMC 31.05.93.

Royal Air Force
GROUP CAPTAIN: D Watson - to MOD 21.05.93.
WING COMMANDER: N C L Hudson to MOD ACDS (Con) 21.05.93; B R Collins - To MOD AFD/DASBC 24.05.93; N J Pearson - To JARIC BRAMPTON 24.05.93.

Service luncheon

1st Gurkha Rifles
Major-General D.G.T. Horsford presided at the annual luncheon of the 1st Gurkha Rifles Regimental Association held on Saturday in Winchester.

Service dinner

Parachute 2 Club (1941-45)
The annual dinner of Parachute 2 Club (1941-45), 2nd Battalion The Parachute Regiment, was held on Saturday in Grantham. Major R.H. Levien presided and Colonel D.C. Parker, chairman of the regimental association, was the principal guest.

Election

The Astronomer Royal, Professor Arnold Wolfendale, has been elected President of the Antiquarian Horological Society.

Royal Geographical Society

The society has awarded 1993 medals for outstanding contributions to geographical discovery and science, as follows:
Royal Medals: Professor Kenneth Gregory, Warden of Goldsmith's College, London, and Colonel John Blashford-Snell, chairman of the Scientific Exploration Society and instigator of Operation Raleigh.

These and the 11 other awards will be presented by the Society's president, Sir Crispin Tickell, at the annual general meeting on June 7.

Medals and Awards 1993
Honorary Member: The Princess Royal
Special Medal: The Geographical Association
Honorary Vice-President: Lord Chorley
Royal Medals
Founder's: Professor Kenneth Gregory, Goldsmith's College, London
Patron's: Colonel John Blashford-Snell MBE, ex-Operation Raleigh
Victoria Medal: Professor Norman Graves, ex-Institute of Education, University of London
Busk Medal: Dr John Shears, Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Monks Wood
Cherry Kearton Medal and Award: Douglas Allan
Murchison Award: Professor Paul Claval, University of Paris I
Back Award: Dr Lloda Newson, King's College, London
Cuthbert Peek Award: Dr Sheila Ross, University of Bristol
Gill Memorial Award: Dr Ian Ashwell, ex-British Schools' Exploring Society
Ness Award: Michael Asher
Edward Heath Award: Dr John Sall, University College, London
Geographical Award: Rio Tinto Zinc (RTZ)
Alfred Steers Dissertation Prize: Tim Coles, University of Exeter

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.C. Davey and Miss C.S.L. Sutton
The engagement is announced between Anthony, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Alan Davey, of Hampton Hill, Middlesex, and Catherine, only daughter of Major and Mrs John Sutton, of Holt, Norfolk.

Mr N.D. Henderson and Miss E.C. Sharp
The engagement is announced between Nicol, younger son of Mr Roy Henderson, of Highgate, N6, and Mrs Joan Henderson, of Aldermaston, Berkshire, and Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Mr Robert Sharp, OBE, and Mrs Sharp, of Gillingham, Dorset.

Mr H.M.F. Morten and Miss A.H. Brown
The engagement is announced between Harry, younger son of Mr and Mrs Hamish Morten, of Halesworth, Suffolk, and Alexandra, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs Christopher Brown, of Water Stratford, Buckingham.

Mr J.S. Redpath and Miss C.K. Hyland
The engagement is announced between Scott, younger son of Dr John Redpath and Mrs Peter Henderson, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Hyland.

Mr M.J. Taffs and Miss L.K. Cranmer-Brown
The engagement is announced between Miles, younger son of Mr and Mrs Gavin Taffs, of Fordcombe, Kent, and Lucinda, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Cranmer-Brown, of Chorleywood, Hertfordshire.

Mr C.C. Thompson and Miss E.N. Brooke
The engagement is announced between Charles, only son of Squadron Leader James Thompson, of Mijas, Spain, and Mrs Diana Thompson, of Malvern, Worcestershire, and Emma, only daughter of the late Sir George Brooke, Bt, and of Lady Melissa Brooke, of Glenbevan, Croom, Co Limerick.

Marriages

Mr D.G.R. Rose and Miss V.M. Sinclair
The marriage took place on Saturday in York Minster of Mr Daniel Rose, son of Sir Christopher and Lady Rose, of Henbury, Cheshire, to Miss Victoria Sinclair, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Sinclair, of York. The Dean of York officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Jessica Sinclair, Hannah Picard-Brown, Miss Tania Gregory and Miss Gayle Hudson. Mr Dominic Hepworth was best man.

A reception was held at Castle Howard and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr H.R.C. Burnand and Miss L.K. Hallifax
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Mark's, Englefield, Berkshire, of Mr Hugo Burnand, son of Mr Peter Burnand and the late Mrs Susan Burnand and stepson of Mrs Peter Burnand, to Miss Louisa Hallifax, daughter of the late Admiral Sir David Hallifax and of Lady Hallifax. The Right Rev Maurice A.P. Wood and the Rev Matthew Persson officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother, Mr Thomas Hallifax, was attended by Lady Olivia Marquis, Tatti Bullard, Georgiana Haig, William Haig, Jack Blackiston-Houston and Harry Benyon. Captain Grant Barker was best man.

Mr G. Birch and Miss B. Wilkinson
The marriage took place on Saturday at Christchurch, Gleadless, Sheffield between Mr Gary Birch, son of Mr Ken Birch and Mrs Margaret Taylor, of Sheffield, and Miss Beverley Wilkinson, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Norman Wilkinson, of Sheffield. The Rev Roger Atkins officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Lucy Cahill, Tom Cahill and Alex Timperley. Mr Ian Whitehorn was best man.

A reception was held at the Swallow Hotel, Sheffield and the honeymoon will be spent in Hong Kong and Bali.

Mr G. Defries and Miss E. Sandbach
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 22, at St Catharine's Church, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, of Mr Graham Defries, son of Mr Nicholas Defries and the late Mrs Defries, to Miss Emma Sandbach, daughter of Mr Sam Sandbach and the Hon Mrs Gleonie. Monsignor George Tancred, Father John Brennan and Father Anthony Sims officiated.

The bride was attended by Henry, Clementine and Elizabeth Sandbach, Catherine Hales, Peregrine Fellowes, Max Logsdail and Maricon Aspillaga.

A reception was held at the bride's family home and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J. Locke and Miss K. Bicknell
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 22, 1993, at St Etheldreda's, of Mr Jonathan Locke, elder son of Mr Gordon Locke and the late Mrs Locke, to Miss Katherine Bicknell, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Basil Bicknell.

Mr D.N. Vermont and Mrs G. Dutfield
The marriage took place on Saturday, May 22, 1993, in the Chapel of Mercers' Hall, London, between Mr David Vermont and Mrs Grizelda Dutfield, née d'Agapeyeff. The Right Rev Richard Chartres, Bishop of Stepney, officiated, assisted by the Rev John Paul.

Latest wills

Sir Giles Lionel Bullard, of West Hendred, Oxfordshire, former Ambassador to Bulgaria and High Commissioner for the West Indies, left estate valued at £422,508 net.

Mrs Vera Hue-Williams, of Woolton Hill, Hampshire, left estate valued at £9,014,378 net.
She left £5,000 to her secretary Mrs James, £2,000 each to Mr Forbes, manager at Woolton House Stud, and her chauffeur Ronald Lanaria, £1,000 to her head gardener Mr McCoy, £750 to each of her other indoor employees in her service for five years at her death, and the remainder of her estate mostly to relatives.

Sir John Francis Prideaux, of Ockley, Surrey, former chairman of the National Westminster Bank and the Special Trustees of St Thomas' Hospital, left estate valued at £436,331 net.

Lt Gen Sir William Gregory Huddleston Pike, retd, of Bentley, Hampshire, formerly Director of Staff Duties at the War Office, Chief of Staff Far East Land Forces and Vice-Chief of the Imperial General Staff, left estate valued at £190,915 net. He left £500 to St Mary's Church, Bentley.

Professor Herbert Lionel Adolphus Hart, of Oxford, Professor of Jurisprudence at Oxford 1952-68 and Principal of Brasenose College 1973-8, left estate valued at £310,698 net.
He left all his books on law, jurisprudence, legal, political and social philosophy, political theory and institutions, sociology, criminology, anthropology and ethics, to the Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Mr John Herbert Charles Nayler, of Dorking, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,457,962 net.
He left 31/40ths of his estate to personal legatees, and 9/40ths of his estate to Help the Aged.

Sir Robert Minshull Shone, of London NW3, Director-General of the National Economic Development Council 1962-6, and president of the Society of British Economists 1963-8, left estate valued at £1,078,495 net.

Mr Peter Brian Ayscough, of Leeds, West Yorkshire, university lecturer, left estate valued at £388,345 net.
He left his entire estate equally between St Catherine's College, Cambridge, the Mountaineering Association of Great Britain, the Scottish Mountaineering Club, Glasgow, the National Trust and the Spastics Society.

Other estates include (net before tax paid):
Mr Roger Appleyard, of Hale Barns, Greater Manchester .... £640,805.
Mr Frederick Harry Cashmore, of Tividale, West Midlands .... £767,261.
Mrs Joyce Anne Daniels, of Norwich Norfolk .... £709,296.
Mrs Betty Pauline MacKintosh Drake, of London W14 .... £1,349,200.
Mr William John Surman Gurney, of Piccadilly, London W1 .... £1,505,796.
Mr Edward John Ring Holder, of Petersfield, Hants .... £803,515.
Mrs Edith Mary Moseley, of Faddiley, Cheshire .... £748,293.
Mr Joseph Vivian Richards, of Truro, Cornwall .... £874,435.
Muriel Mary Rutter, of Newport, Gwent .... £672,809.
Mr Arthur David Sowerby, of Scotter, Lincs .... £2,920,528.
Marie Dorothy Vere Warner, of Sevenoaks, Kent .... £653,346.

Nature notes

COMMON and arctic terns are back at their breeding sites, many of them on Scottish islands. The common terns have wintered in southern Africa, the arctic terns have been right down to the Antarctic. They scream and wheel over the beaches, opening their long forked tails, and are not easy to distinguish from each other: on a good view the dark red, black-tipped bill of the common tern can be seen, while the arctic tern's bill is a pure blood-red.

Puffins have returned to the clifftops, where they walk about with a nautical roll; in summer, their triangular beaks are striped blue, yellow and red. Manx shearwaters and storm petrels are also back on western islands: they fly into their nest-holes at night, for fear of marauding gulls.

Many early summer flowers are out. Mouse-ear hawkweed is like a lemon-yellow dandelion, pink-tipped beneath. Wood and field forget-me-nots are growing tall, often in dense patches: the wood forget-me-nots have larger, brighter blue flowers. Ox-eye daisies are open on grassy banks and are common along railway lines. Some of the red storksbill flowers have already turned to long, pointed seeds.

DJM

The common tern

TEL: 071 481 4000 PERSONAL COLUMN FAX: 071 481 9313

My mouth will be full of your praises, I shall tell of your splendour all day long.
Psalm 71 : 8

BIRTHS

BALFOUR - On May 22 at Whangaparoa, New Zealand, to Catherine (Nee O'Connor) and Crispin, a son.
BISSET - To Indira (née Bahadursingh) and Richard a daughter, Jacinthe Indrani Martha, a sister for Chantal, on 8th May 1993 at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, London.
BOLDING - On May 17th 1993, to Lynda (née O'Shea) and Keith, a son, William Charles, a brother for Philippa.
CRADDOCK - On 18th May 1993, to Elizabeth (née Stewart) and Geoffrey, at The Lindo Wing, St Mary's, Paddington, a beautiful daughter, Kirsten Emily Stewart.
HALDEN - On May 13th at Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, to Julia (née MacDowell) and Simon, a daughter, Henrietta Mary Kelway, a sister for Emma.
LLEWELLYN - To Caroline, wife of Henry. On May 20th a son.

DEATHS

BRAZIER-CREAGH - on May 20th, peacefully at Sutton Scotney, Lt Colonel George Edward Brian Brazier-Creagh, Royal Artillery (Retired). Dearly loved husband of Daphne. All enquiries to F.W House & Sons, Funeral Directors, Lymington, Hampshire. (0590) 673142.
CAMPBELL - On May 19th, Beryl Joyce Marguerite, Peacefully at home in Paignton. Funeral Service at Christ Church, Paignton, Tuesday June 1st at 2.30pm, followed by burial in Paignton Cemetery. Family flowers only, donations if desired for R.S.P.B. c/o Maunders Funeral Service, 27 Well Street, Paignton, Devon.
CUNNINGTON - on May 18 1993. Peacefully in Poole Hospital, Poole Dorset. Pamela Mary aged 67 years of Dorchester, formerly historic buildings officer Dorset County Council. Funeral service at St Georges Church, Fordington, Dorchester on Wednesday May 26 at 2.30 pm followed by cremation at Weymouth. Donations in lieu of flowers may be given for the West Dorset Hospice Macmillan Service c/o Woods (Dorchester) Ltd, 11a Icen Way, Dorchester DT1 1EW Tel: 0305 262666
HAMILTON-JONES - on 21 May 1993 peacefully at home. Penelope Anne Marion (Derry) aged 64. Funeral at St Denys, Severn Stoke, Worcs on Wednesday 26 May at 1.00pm. Family flowers only. Donations made out to Marie Curie Cancer Care or Imperial Cancer Research Fund, may be sent c/o H W Taylor & Son Funeral Directors, 19 High Street, Upton-Upon-Severn, Worcs WR8 0HJ.
HAMMOND Rosemary on May 21st Peacefully. Beloved sister of Hermione & devoted friend of Barbara. Funeral at Cirencester Parish Church Thursday May 27th at 10.30 am.
JONES - Frieda of Windmill Lane, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, suddenly on 19th May 1993. Much loved wife of the late Alec and mother of Rosemary. Service at Mapleton Church, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire, on Wednesday May 26th at 11.45am followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired to be divided between Mapleton Church and The Swiss Church, London. Further enquiries to H. Lee & Son, Ashbourne (0335) 342530.
NEWTON - On May 20th, Douglas Anthony (Tony) CB, beloved husband of Barbara, much loved father and grandfather, died peacefully in Weybridge Hospital. Cremation at Randalls Crematorium, Leatherhead, 26th May at 2.30 pm. No flowers but donations if wished to Motor Neurone Association or Friends of Weybridge Hospital c/o Chittys, Weybridge.
RICKETTS - Betty (Elizabeth), peacefully on May 20th in Chesham Bois Manor, after a gallant and courageous fight against a painful illness. Second wife of the late Keith Harford and welcomed with affection into the family by his children Elizabeth Ann and Timothy. Remembered also by daughter-in-law Yvonne, godson Piers, Dominic and Chantal with whom she developed a lasting friendship. Cremation at Amersham Crematorium on Friday 28th May at 10.30am. All enquiries to: Cooks Funeral Directors, Chesham.
WEDD - On May 21st, peacefully at home after a short illness, Roy Douglas, previously of Ceylon much loved father of Sue, Grandfather & friend. Private cremation. Memorial service at Holy Trinity, Clare on Tuesday 6th July at 2.30 pm. No flowers
WHITTAKER Dr Norman. On May 21 1993 peacefully in hospital. Funeral private. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research Campaign.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

HARVEY - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Thomas Harvey will be held at Chelsea Old Church, London SW3, on Friday 11th June at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

OSMAN - In abiding memory on this, the 100th anniversary of his birth, of Arthur Arnold Osman, D.S.C., F.R.C.P., the first Nephrologist. He had the great courage of his convictions. Forever in our thoughts. Rose, Philip, Trudy, and Family.
WOLFSON - Lady Edith Wolfson (1907-1981) on her Birthday. Remembered with love by all her family and friends.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARIES

YOUNG:SPICER - On 24th May 1933 at St Marylebone Parish Church, Tyrrell to Patricia.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
The Thomas Gray Memorial Trust.
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at the RSA, 8 John Adam Street, London, WC2N 6EZ, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting reference [illegible]. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - Women's Royal Voluntary Service
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference number [illegible].

LONDON ORPHAN SCHOOL AND ROYAL BRITISH ORPHAN SCHOOL
The Annual General Court of the Schools will be held at Reed's School, Cobham, at 3.00 p.m. on Thursday 17 June 1993 to receive the Annual Report, to approve the accounts and to transact any other formal business. Subscribers who wish to attend may obtain tickets from the Secretary, Reed's School, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 2ES. (Tel: Cobham (0932) [illegible]).

MR. JONATHAN HIDE Formerly of 26 Park Road, Cheam, Surrey, ENGLAND. Anyone who has information on the whereabouts of the above mentioned kindly contact: [illegible]

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTING

ALL MASONIC Articles, Regalia, Jewels, Watches, Books etc. Wanted. 071 229 9618.
"CAPTAIN" Sound Volume wanted 1900-1918, good prices paid. [illegible]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DAVID [illegible] [illegible]

FLATSHARE

[illegible]

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TICKETS FA CUP FINAL
[illegible]
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[illegible]

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FOR SALE

[illegible]

GIFTS

[illegible]

HEALTH & BEAUTY

[illegible]

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N4 2bd £143 0442 250588
N14 1sh £250 0831 807257
NW4 3bd £165 081 202 1921
NW6 1sh £70 0244 570C287

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OBITUARIES

LORNA PEGRAM

Lorna Pegram, television producer and novelist, died in Deal, Kent, on May 16 aged 66. She was born on October 25, 1926.

LORNA PEGRAM worked for the BBC for 35 years. But her great triumph came with *The Shock of the New* — an eight-part television series about modern art which she made with Robert Hughes between 1978 and 1980, and which was first transmitted in the latter year. Hughes had long been a protégé of hers — they first met when he was 28 and she was 40 — and his first assignment for her had been to review a show of Australian painting featuring some works by Sidney Nolan.

In those days art critics in London with a knowledge of Australian art were hard to come by. Somehow Pegram tracked Hughes down to a bedsitter. Did he, he was asked, know anything about Sidney Nolan? And had he ever appeared on TV? The answers were, respectively, "Yes" and "No". But Pegram was not to be deterred. In no time Hughes found himself in front of a camera dressed in an ill-fitting tweed jacket talking nervously of Ned Kelly.

That was typical of Pegram's thoroughly determined approach. Raised in the East End, the only child of strict Salvation Army parents, she went from Dagenham County High School to King's College, London, where she took first-class honours with a thesis on medieval mystery plays. In 1950 she joined the BBC, initially working solely for radio. She started off with *Listen with Mother* and later joined *Woman's Hour* where she became famous as the voice that read the listeners' letters.

In the late 1950s she joined BBC Television, producing what were then mainly women's afternoon programmes. She was responsible for *The Wednesday Magazine* and for a weekly programme that featured Robert Robinson called *Look of the Week*. But in the mid-1960s she made good her escape to the arts features department where she soon flourished. For the next 14 years she filled quite a lot of television time. She put Robert Hughes in the chair of *The Art Game*, an aesthetes' quiz in which a panel, ranging from Elisabeth Frink to George Melly, had to identify a sculpture from a detail of its toenail or a Madonna from her eyebrow. She also produced a weekly arts magazine, *Release* (the successor to Huw Wheldon's *Monitor*) and *Canvas*, a series of essays on particular works of art, which were presented — those being the days of black-and-white telly — in front of grainy, life-sized photographs in the studio.

In the 1970s as her budgets grew along with her editorial freedom, Pegram did a number of longer documentaries for BBC2; on Gunther Grass and Picasso, on Jean-Louis Barrault and on her special musical love, Handel. She directed a trio of films on 17th-century artists — Caravaggio, Rubens and Bernini — which Robert Hughes wrote and narrated. With the writer, Rene Cutforth, she did a set of films on "life and culture" in the past decades of his life, the Twenties, Thirties and Forties.

For all who worked with her, Pegram was a wonderful teacher: steady in her coaching and coaxing, unflappable (though given at times to memorable outbursts of strategic exasperation), attentive to the nuance, and always pragmatic. She was both director and audience: which is to say that, in the difficult business of making films about art, she always stood in for the audience as its intelligent ombudsman, taking care not to let the narrator get away with vagueness, jargon or circumlocution. She disliked the flights of theory to which art critics are prone, and if there is one sound that Robert Hughes still claims to hear from *The Shock of the New*, it is her voice anxiously muttering, through its accompanying haze of cigarette smoke: "A clever argument, Bob dear, but what are we supposed to be looking at?"

She had a highly developed gift for creating argument and narrative through images but without tricks, and she was absolutely entranced by the visual, whether one was looking at Bernini's *baldacchino* in St Peter's or at the glittering white faces of a marble quarry above Serravezza, or figuring out how to intercut a view of a ruined castle in La Roche-Guyon with the cubist painting Braque had made of it in 1909.

Her last two films, which were about American art and based on the collections of the American wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, were done with the distinguished architectural historian, Vincent Scully, in the early 1980s. In 1984 she retired from the BBC to her house in Deal to write full-time.

One reason why she worked so well with writers, and understood their blocks and quirks, was that she was one herself. Between the 1950s and her death last week she published seven novels (she had just completed her last, *Penelope's Web*, at the time of her death). None of the early ones had much commercial success, but they drew respectable reviews, and the best of them, *Summer Fires* (1969) — an intricate and polished tale of a four-cornered relationship between three women and one man in an English country-house — was hailed by *The Times* as "original, beautifully written" and the product of "a genuine, intriguing, sometimes baffling talent." In truth, it was also a preview of the spirit of women's lib to come.

Pegram was twice married. She is survived by two sons of the first marriage and one of the second.

HEINRICH ALBERTZ

Heinrich Albertz, former mayor of West Berlin, died in Bremen on May 18 aged 78. He was born in Breslau (now Wroclaw, Poland) on January 22, 1915.

HEINRICH ALBERTZ was a brave, awkward man who constantly questioned the moral basis of German politics. From his youthful days as a pastor in Nazi Germany — when he was arrested several times — to his remarkable gesture in offering himself as a hostage to terrorists in the 1970s, Albertz did not flinch from carrying out what he regarded as his Christian duty. In the conformist culture of German politics, he stood out both as a maverick politician and as a man of conscience.

Albertz studied theology in Breslau, Halle and Berlin, and at the same time joined the Social Democratic party (SPD). These two strands of Protestant Church activities and radical politics were to run throughout his life. The Gestapo was alerted to his politically provocative sermons and to his network of SPD friends; after a number of interrogations, he was sent to the front line in 1941. Two years later, after conducting a service in tribute to the anti-Nazi pastor Martin Niemöller, he was given a long jail sentence.

After the war Albertz was shocked by the misery of the millions of refugees and displaced people. By 1948 he had become refugee minister in the government of the state of Lower Saxony. It was Berlin, however, that was to become his true political home. He rose quickly in the well established Social Democratic party machine in West Berlin, dealing successively with education, worker welfare, transport and eventually, in 1965, taking over the role of Senator for the Interior which gave him control over the police. That role made him the deputy to the Mayor of West Berlin, Willy Brandt. When Brandt moved into Bonn politics in 1966, Albertz took over the powerful, high profile job of mayor in the divided city. He was suddenly at the very heart of the German *Ostpolitik*.

But the pastor was not comfortable in power. There were too many compromises to be made; he was often wracked by doubt. In June 1967 the Shah of Iran visited Berlin. Big demonstrations were organised against him and Albertz put the police on high alert. On June 2 a policeman shot and killed a demonstrating student, Benno Ohnesorg, and Albertz, obviously stunned by the event, promptly resigned. "I was at my weakest when I was behaving at my toughest on that night of June 2," he wrote later. "Why? Because, objectively, I did the wrong thing."

Indeed the shooting changed Albertz and he drifted quickly away from establishment politics. Within the SPD he was viewed as a troublemaker. He became more and more sympathetic to the student protest movement. In March 1975 terrorists from the group known as the 2 June Movement kidnapped a Christian Democrat politician in Berlin and demanded the release of five of their imprisoned colleagues. The terrorists, nervous that the authorities would backtrack on the deal or force down the aircraft, insisted that they be accompanied by a politician or churchman. Albertz stepped forward and flew to South Yemen with the terrorists.

Albertz retired from active church work in 1979 and wrote a number of books on Christian life and politics.

He continued to be a restless presence on the political scene. He spoke at peace movement rallies during the 1980s and vehemently opposed the Bonn government's decision in 1982 to allow the modernisation of US medium-range nuclear weapons in Germany. That was only one of many lost battles waged by Albertz in his old age. He lobbied hard, but unsuccessfully, for the early release from prison of Red Army Faction terrorists and visited one of them on a regular basis.

Nobody, said Albertz shortly before his death, should be denied forgiveness or mercy; that was basic Christian teaching. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and a son.

CANON KEITH de BERRY

Canon Keith de Berry, Rector of St Aldate's, Oxford, 1952-74, and Canon Emeritus of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, died in Exeter on May 16 aged 85. He was born on October 12, 1907.

A CONFIDANT of bishops and students alike, a fearless preacher of the Christian gospel and an improviser to the last, Keith de Berry conducted a memorable ministry in Oxford for more than 20 years. From the early 1950s to the mid-1970s a huge, oblong notice always stood in termtime on the little piece of grass outside St Aldate's and opposite Christ Church. Taking a leaf out of the ways of the cinema, it proclaimed the church's forthcoming attractions — eminent churchmen appearing, to preach on challenging themes.

But the names displayed there were by no means confined to orthdodox Anglican clerics. Billy Graham and the late Malcolm Muggeridge were but two among many who found themselves being given this star, spiritual treatment. The St Aldate's of de Berry's day always very much saw the world as its parish.

Oscar Keith de la Tour de Berry was the only son of a prominent City of London figure, Oscar Berry, and his wife Nellie. Keith came at the end of a line of five sisters, Pearl, Ivy, Doris, Sylvia and Carol. All of them were brilliant evangelists, but the youngest of the six was the most prolific in terms of sheer evangelistic output, and of the number of people reached. Many thousands of individuals from every walk of life attribute their Christian beginnings to his vigorous parochial leadership, spanning four decades, and a remarkable Wesley-like ministry, conducted in retirement, that was to range across Britain and even into America from 1974 until his death.

De Berry's own Christian pilgrimage began in earnest with his own call to commitment at the age of 11, five years after he had, with his sisters, waved off the *Titanic* from their home, then on the Isle of Wight. Education followed, at Marlborough and St John's College, Cambridge, where he gained a degree in history. After Ridley Hall, the low-church theological college at Cambridge, came Anglican ordination and a curacy at that power-house of the Evangelicals, St Mary's, Islington. There began a lifelong friendship with his fellow curate, Donald Coggan, later to become Archbishop of Canterbury.

It was now that the traits for which the de Berry family was renowned began to manifest themselves. They centred on an animated approach to life, a terrier-like refusal to let go of the main issue at stake, and a capacity for making something out of nothing — the last-minute improvisation of a visual aid for use in church, the turning of the most casual contacts into evangelistic opportunities, the transformation of the most trivial of events into an eloquent sermon illustration.

Incumbencies followed, at St George's, Battersea, Immanuel, Streatham, and — lasting 23 years — St Aldate's, Oxford. All were characterised by an immense expenditure of energy, a passion for film evenings, a commitment to summer house-parties, open-air preaching, crowded "guest services" (late-comers at St Aldate's were fortunate to find a vacant window-sill) and, undergirding all, a cheerfully confident appeal to the authority of scripture. It was earnestness without intensity, a ministry achieved apparently without preparation or effort.

The platform, though, was solid enough. Its main planks were a life-long commitment to Bible study, a wide range of reading and a prayerful belief that no one was beyond the reach of the Christian gospel De Berry might, as was said at his funeral, lose the debate against the Oxford University Humanists, but still end up by winning his chief opponent to the faith.

It remains a mystery why (beyond being made an honorary canon in his last four years at St Aldate's) he never gained any preferment. The truth probably was that throughout the years of his active ministry Evangelicals remained unfashionable, and certainly his one book, *The Making of a Christian*, failed to do his gifts justice.

De Berry's main work was certainly not over when retirement finally came in 1974. From honorary curacies at St Paul's, Portman Square, and then at All Souls, Langham Place, he launched upon a ministry of "mini-missions", valued alike by schools, universities, parishes and overseas venues. A short, round-shouldered, unthreatening figure, he lacked all presence. But his words still seemed able to cut through the most formidable of defences. It is possible that in this period he won more hearts and minds than in all his previous years.

Unusual, but never eccentric, Keith de Berry will in part be rememberd for an acutely enquiring mind, for his sherry parties at Wilton Place, for his hilarious explorations into the world of amateur cine photography, for his habit (developed since Marlborough days) of taking a cold bath every morning, and his contentment with the bicycle as a mode of transport. He is survived by his wife Betty, two sons and two daughters.

OMOND SOLANDT

Omond McKillop Solandt, a Canadian military scientist who helped Britain establish a blood-storage service for victims of the London blitz, died on May 12 in hospital at Alliston, Ontario, aged 83. He was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, on September 2, 1909.

OMOND SOLANDT was a towering figure in Canadian scientific and defence research circles, who played a key role in setting up a reliable system of storing blood in London during the second world war. In Canada he was founder and first chairman of the Defence Research Board, established just after the war in recognition of the need to keep Canada abreast of developments in the field of military science.

Quietly-spoken and rugged, he was also an avid canoeist and an accomplished athlete. He played football for the University of Toronto when he was a student there in the 1930s.

A 1936 Gold Medal graduate in medicine from the University of Toronto, Solandt went on to Cambridge where he spent several years doing research in physiology and lecturing.

In 1940, he was appointed director of the Southwest London Blood Supply Depot. The British government was concerned at the time about having enough readily available blood to treat civilians injured in the German air raids. Though transfusion was a well-established practice, techniques for storing blood were relatively primitive. Solandt played a principle part in setting up a reliable system of storage.

The following year he became the founding director of a medical research council physiological laboratory at the Armoured Fighting Vehicle School in Lulworth. In 1943 he joined the armoured vehicle branch of Britain's Army Operational Research Group (AORG) in London, which among other things was working to perfect radar. In 1944, when the group's commandant left to become a scientific adviser to General Montgomery, Solandt took his place.

Not long after the war ended, he represented Britain on an international team sent out to Hiroshima and Nagasaki to study the effects of the atomic bombings.

As head of Canada's Defence Research Board from 1947 to 1956, Solandt coordinated the work of seven different military-scientific establishments scattered across the country.

After leaving the board in 1956, he spent a total of ten years directing research and development for, first, the Canadian National Railways and later de Havilland Aircraft of Canada. From 1965 to 1971 he was Chancellor of the University of Toronto.

In later years Solandt frequently travelled to Third World countries to conduct medical and agricultural science studies for Canada's International Development Research Centre.

His death came as leading Canadian scientists were preparing to honour him with a series of meetings and seminars dedicated to him — "Dr Solandt's Life and Legacy". It will take place in Kingston, Ontario, next March.

Solandt's first wife died in 1971. He is survived by his second wife Vaire and their two daughters.

MARY PHILBIN

Mary Philbin, a leading lady of silent films, died in California on May 7 aged 89. She was born in Chicago on July 16, 1903.

MARY PHILBIN starred in 1925 in the classic, Lon Chaney version of *The Phantom of the Opera*, the first feature film of the famous tale.

She played Christine, the singer with whom the embittered, deformed composer, played by Cheney, falls in love.

Among her other films were *The Blazing Trail* (1924), *The Age of Desire* (1923), *The Gaiety Girl* (1924), *Stella Maris* (1925) and *The Man Who Laughs* (1927). Her career ended with the advent of sound at the end of the 1920s.

She was the 16-year-old runner-up of a beauty contest when she drew the attention of Carl Laemmle, president of Universal Pictures.

Philbin never married.

ON THIS DAY

May 24 1945

While VE Day was being celebrated on May 8, Field Marshal Slim's 14th Army was still engaged in the reconquest of Burma. Rangoon and Mandalay fell in March but mopping up might have continued for a long time had not the atom bomb forced the surrender of Japan in August.

LAST BLOWS IN BURMA

From Our Special Correspondent

RANGOON, May 23

There is no news of an exciting nature to report from the Burma front, nor is there likely to be for some time to come; but that is not to say there is no hard fighting in progress. On a recent trip northward I was impressed by the number and the savagery of the clashes which are occurring every day. There are still at least 15,000 Japanese west of the Rangoon-Meiktila road. In parties ranging from two to 200 they are filtering eastward, mostly by night, along the five or six main escape routes. Although they avoid action wherever possible, they frequently bump into our positions.

As soon as we receive information that a party of Japanese have arrived in a village patrols are sent out to attack them. Ambushes are set regularly on many of the trails they use. Men of the Burmese National Army are working with us, and apparently giving us real and valuable military assistance. The advantage of having these people of the country on our side is obvious. A Japanese in Burmese dress, for example, still looks Japanese to them.

In clashes of varying scale Japanese on the IV Corps front on the Rangoon-Meiktila road are being killed every day. In a typical action 43 were killed, including three Japanese nurses. Nor is it entirely a one-sided war. A platoon of a north country regiment was almost wiped out the other day. "It appears to have been the old story. Some Japanese who were spotted ran away. The north countrymen, perhaps young and inexperienced, gave chase impetuously, and were led straight into a pre-arranged Japanese ambush. Similar mopping up is going on every day on the XXXIII Corps front on the Rangoon-Prome road." Four motor-launches which went up the Sittang river a few days ago to try to scupper the numerous Japanese crossing that river had an exciting adventure. They anchored for the night in the estuary in 30ft. of water. The tide ebbed, their anchors dragged, and they soon found themselves in 2ft. of water stuck fast. There was nothing for it but to wait for the flood tide. But it was different from what they expected. At dusk the following evening they heard a dull roar like that of a Diesel engine. Then they saw a 3ft. high wall of water. This bore capsized two boats and the men jumped overboard.

Hanging on to their rubber dinghy 18 men were swept upstream for two and a half hours at about eight knots and were eventually washed up on the far shore in Japanese-held territory. Lying low all night, they waded across the river at low tide to the west bank the next morning after meeting six other survivors. They met with the greatest kindness from a Burmese fisherman and villagers, who took them downstream, fed them, and gave them cheroots. The next day the Burmese provided bullock carts, sent scouts ahead, and after a two-day trek brought them into our lines . . .

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NEWS

Tory MPs prepare railway revolt

■ John MacGregor was struggling to head off an embarrassing defeat on rail privatisation as Conservative MPs prepared to revolt over cheap fares for pensioners and young people.

In what appeared to be a trial of strength, up to 14 Tory MPs — enough to defeat the government — were threatening to rebel in tomorrow's vote during the final parliamentary stages of the railways bill ..... Page 1

How loose talk costs lives

■ Sensitive police operations, including those aimed at curbing IRA activity in London, are being jeopardised because of loose talk by officers using mobile telephones. Unguarded comments by civil servants and MPs employing the cellular phone system are also risking lives..... Pages 1, 5

Peace plan spurned

President Izetbegovic of Bosnia rejected the American-led peace plan for the republic as "totally unacceptable" and said he would not take part in talks for its implementation. It also became clear that the measures had been advocated by the United Nations peace force in the Balkans months ago ..... Pages 1, 13

Benefits in jeopardy

An assault on benefits enjoyed by the wealthy is at the heart of the government's attempt to rein back public spending, Michael Portillo disclosed as he faced a cabinet revolt over his demands for tough cuts in next year's targets ..... Page 1

Oxford disunity

The controversy over equal opportunities at Oxford University is set to break out again today with the publication in *The Times* of a don's research that shows far fewer women obtaining first-class degrees at Oxford than at other universities Page 2

Infertility threat

Treatment of infertility for single women under the NHS was under threat after the mother of Britain's newest sextuplets disclosed that she was unmarried and living apart from their father..... Page 3

Working behind bars

An Italian entrepreneur is to manufacture mozzarella cheese behind the walls of East Sutton Park jail in the latest example of the enterprise culture in the prison system..... Page 7

Cutting crime

Tougher jail sentences combined with insurance discounts and cuts in VAT for crime prevention measures could do more to reduce crime than extra police or neighbourhood watches, according to a new analysis of crime policy..... Page 7

Rural disquiet

In bright afternoon sunshine, Ernest and Dorothy Cradon are pushing a shopping trolley along the main street of Christchurch, Hampshire. Their progress is slow, and they seem happy to talk about their worries as another by-election looms .. Page 10

Judge remembered

Italians took time off from their hallowed Sunday sports activities to recall Giovanni Falcone, the anti-Mafia judge killed a year ago, as speculation mounted over the motive for his murder..... Page 11

Visit defended

Sir Percy Cradock, a critic of the policies of Chris Patten, the Hong Kong governor, defended his Peking visit at such a sensitive moment for democracy talks in the colony ..... Page 12

Tackling his troubles

President Clinton tried to pull out of a political nosedive by rounding oo Democratic opponents of his economic programme, but he could not shake off his growing troubles Page 13

Getting involved in a right royal row

■ More than five hundred people listened to an unprecedented range of views during Saturday's conference on royalty, ranging from the fervently republican to the fiercely monarchist. Peter Stothard, editor of *The Times*, said that had he proposed such an event 40 years ago he would have been dismissed as a rebel or worse — or just dismissed. Pages 8, 9

ALEX MACNAUGHTON

Fighting form: M3 protesters at Twyford Down, near Winchester, breaking through police lines yesterday. Report, page 3

SPORT

Cricket: John Woodcock joins in the fun at Lord's as Denis Compton celebrates his 75th birthday and writes "What one would have given to see him now, the laughing cavalier of 1947, going out to show Australia's bowlers the magic he brought to the game" ..... Page 26

Motor racing: Ayrton Senna became the first man to win six Monaco Grands Prix, surpassing the performance of the British driver Graham Hill whose son, Damon, finished second ..... Pages 21, 22

Yachting: Andrew Longmore watched as the yachts in the round-the-world British Steel Challenge sailed into Southampton after 151 days at sea ..... Page 23

BUSINESS

Driving force: Ford of Europe has reprieved its Dagenham plant because of a 50 per cent improvement in productivity there, said Jacques Nasser, chairman of Ford of Europe. His announcement comes days before Ford of Britain is expected to report a £300 million loss for 1992..... Pages 38, 40

Current form: The 14 privatised electricity firms in England and Wales begin to report bumper profits for 1992-3 this week. Dividend increases of six times the inflation rate are expected ..... Page 37

Public attitude: Leaders of the CBI are pressing for a public-sector pay policy that will bring it into line with private industry ..... Page 40

FEATURES

Ancient designs: Those who think fashion capitals are found only on the back of perfume bottles may be surprised to see a new city vying for attention. Four years after Tiananmen Square, Iain R. Webb reports on Peking ..... Page 15

Failing about: "The trouble with all sexual harassment cases is the same: that unless it tips over into real and unforgivable violence, sex is always irresistibly comic," writes Libby Purves ..... Page 14

EDUCATION

Red-hot issue: Three schools in South Africa think they have the answer to the racial inequality that is endemic there..... Page 35

ARTS

Over the top: Trevor Griffiths's new play, *Thatcher's Children*, is a dramatically incoherent piece that attributes all Britain's woes to rampant Thatcherism. That, says Benedict Nightingale, is the equivalent of blaming Arthur Scargill for the collapse of socialism ..... Page 29

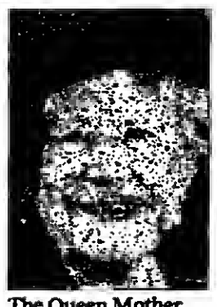
Not much change: Bruce Springsteen gave the first show at the "revamped" Milton Keynes National Bowl: little was new about venue or performance ..... Page 29

BOOKS

Literary lion: A book on Robert Louis Stevenson reveals Scotland's greatest writer of English prose and a put-upon husband ..... Page 31

Alexa Hamley, 22, is the receptionist-turned-juror who inspired Paul Powell, 19, to wolf whistle in court, with disastrous effects for him Page 3

Alec Stewart scored 74 as England lost to Australia by 19 runs in the third Texaco Trophy one-day international at Lord's Page 21



The Queen Mother left Aberdeen Royal Infirmary after her third operation in recent years to remove a piece of fish from her throat Page 1

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Portrait of a monster

■ The trouble with our Slobo, said a man at the Belgrade petrol pump, is that he loves peace too much. *Charles Bremner on Slobodan Milosevic*

Sense of justice

■ Solicitors can now do no-win, no-fee cases. Are they the answer for people who cannot get legal-aid?

Place your bets

■ Geoff Brown on the hot contenders for top prize at the Cannes Film Festival: New Zealand director Jane Campion for *The Piano* and Chinese director Chen Kaige for *Farewell To My Concubine*

TV LISTINGS

Violent crime is rising and it is mainly committed by young men from poor backgrounds. But the experts are divided on whether the causes are genetic, social or moral. *Horizon* (BBC2, 8pm)..... Page 39

OPINION

Shameful ineptitude

The allies have implicitly given them the go-ahead to finish carving out their ethnic states in Bosnia. If this was the West's policy, to have said so a year ago would have been less disgraceful than to hint at military intervention, while 200,000 civilians died ..... Page 17

Spending shibboleths

Even before the much-heralded war over public spending, the government seems almost ready to run up the white flag..... Page 17

Infernal verse

The success of short poems displayed among the toothpaste and Tampax advertisements on the Underground shows that the British still love their finest art, and are hungry for it..... Page 17

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Nobody supposes that the county council election results are likely to be repeated at the next general election. Nevertheless, some further swing to the Liberals is generally expected..... Page 16

MATTHEW PARRIS

"Toss flour ooto boiling water and allow to seethe," said a recipe I have never forgotten. We are also ordered to "crumble" the butter in the sugar, and then "fold" them into the flour and milk. In my experience, butter does not crumble and nothing in the kitchen folds except the recipe sheet. But nobody tells you anything, and slowly the feeling grows that you move in a society where everyone else knows these things..... Page 16

LETTERS

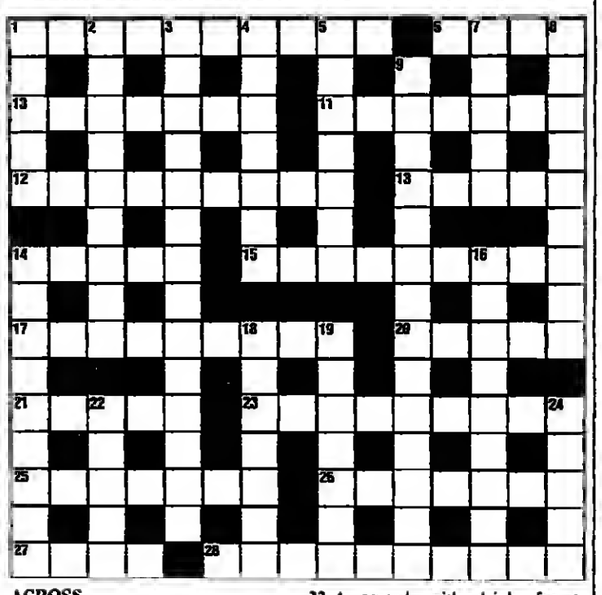
The director-general of the Institute of Export urges better government support for exporting firms..... Page 17

THE PAPERS

It is also idle to speak of saving lives if all the allies are not ready to set up UN-sanctioned safe havens in Bosnia. The Europeans support this idea. The United States holds back, arguing that these enclaves would coodone "ethnic cleansing". But this argument ignores the need to protect threatened people

The Washington Post

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,238



ACROSS

1 Relinquishing a bit I can do badly (10)
6 The case of the oriental bird (4)
10 Cage with trap to capture aristocratic bird (7)
11 Spring into the attack in dirty cinema (7)
12 What the railway buff does may cause tired vision (9)
13 Long number given little weight in study (5)
14 It's inappropriate for a spinster (5)
15 Break an egg on the side perhaps (9)
17 Duty list wrinen backwards in exotic Asian convalescent homes (9)
20 Irishman growing cereal (5)
21 Bridge opponents to play or pass (5)
23 A spread, with drink, for a Gilbertian character (9)
25 The national one is real fun (7)
26 Opening for a number concerned with evil-doing (7)
27 A student in the old university (4)
28 Do they confirm the workers are watching cricket? (10)

DOWN

1 It's enough to take the head off the specimen (5)
2 Two men invest a priest with a flower (9)
3 The children of peers may be distinguished by such good manners and deeds (8,6)
4 Volunteers perhaps drank from this (7)
5 Cricket side objects to insults (7)
7 Starts to obtain platinum and zircon to make a gem (5)
8 In teens, perhaps, extremely lively in an emotional way (9)
9 It's given for the union here (7,7)
14 Coldness in a south wind? A thing unknown (9)
16 A compulsive dependency — notice the choice of words (9)
18 The Italian in defeat is replaced (7)
19 Object to apprentice (7)
22 Time to feel badly about public relations (5)
24 Crowd taking part in après-ski (5)

Concise Crossword, page 40

KNOCKANDO

The solutioo of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,237 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a stationery rack

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glaucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
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Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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WEATHER

Much of Britain will be cloudy with the brighter and drier areas in the north and east. Central and western areas, including Northern Ireland and southwestern Scotland, will have showery rain. Eastern regions will have sunny intervals, but with some showers developing. Fog patches are likely to affect parts of the east coast, southwest and Welsh coasts. Warm generally but cooler on coasts. Outlook: showers moving slowly east and north

MIDDAY: 1=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	22	72	s	Madrid	22	72	f
Akrotiri	23	73	f	Majorca	27	81	s
Alex'dria	24	75	f	Malaga	17	63	r
Algiers	23	73	s	Malta	25	77	s
Amst'dm	20	68	s	Melb'rne	14	57	f
Athens	25	77	s	Miami*	30	86	c
Bahrain	35	95	s	Milan	23	73	s
Bangkok	33	91	f	Montreal*	17	63	f
Barbados*	31	88	f	Moscow	12	54	s
Barcelona	20	68	f	Munich	20	68	s
Beirut	21	70	s	Nairobi	25	77	c
Belgrade	25	77	s	Naples	26	79	s
Berlin	17	63	c	N Delhi	40	104	s
Bermuda*	26	79	f	N York*	21	70	s
Biarritz	25	77	c	Nice	20	68	c
Borde'x	23	73	s	Oslo	22	72	s
Brussels	22	72	s	Paris	24	75	s
Budapest	16	61	s	Peking	33	91	s
B Aires*	23	73	f	Perth	17	63	c
Cairo	29	84	s	Prague	13	55	c
Cape Tn	16	64	f	Reykjavik	7	45	f
Chicago*	23	73	s	Rhodes	25	77	s
Ch'church	13	55	s	Rio de J	23	73	c
Cologne	21	70	s	Riyadh	39	102	s
C'phagn	20	68	s	Rome	22	72	s
Corfu	26	79	s	Salzburg	19	66	s
Dublin	13	55	s	S Frisco*	19	66	s
Dubrovnik	24	75	s	Santiago*	13	55	c
Faro	20	68	f	Seoul	24	75	s
Florence	24	75	s	Sing'por	26	79	r
Frankfurt	21	70	s	St'holm	23	73	s
Funchal	20	68	c	Strasb'rg	22	72	s
Geneva	21	70	s	Sydney	18	64	s
Gibraltar	17	63	r	Tangier	19	66	c
Helsinki	19	66	f	Tel Aviv	25	77	s
Innsbruck	23	73	s	Tenerife	19	66	s
Istanbul	21	70	f	Tokyo	27	81	f
Jeddah	38	100	s	Toronto*	14	57	f
Jo'burg*	22	72	s	Tunis	27	81	s
L Palmas	22	72	f	Valencia	21	70	f
Le Touqt	24	75	s	Vanc'ver*	15	59	f
Lisbon	16	61	f	Venice	23	73	s
Locarno	22	72	s	Vienna	17	63	c
London	19	66	f	Warsaw	19	66	f
L Angeles*	21	70	s	Wash'ton*	20	68	f
Luxembg	20	68	s	Wel'ngton	15	59	s
Luxor	35	95	s	Zurich	21	70	s

* denotes figures are latest available

Yesterday: Temp max 6am to 6pm, 20C (68F); min 6pm to 6am, 13C (55F). Humidity, 6pm, 40 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 8.9hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,015.8 millibars, falling. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

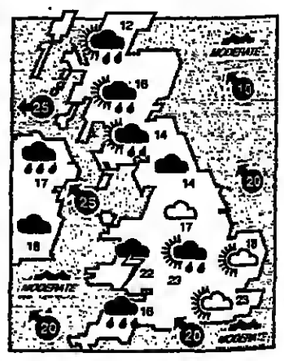
Saturday: Highest day temp: Northolt, west London, Heathrow Airport, 20C (68F); lowest day max: Fair Isle, Shetland, 9C (48F); highest rainfall: Mumbles, near Swansea; Camborne, Cornwall, 0.43in; highest sunshine: Clacton, Essex, 13.1hr

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 21C (70F); min 6pm to 6am, 11C (52F). Rain, 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 2.6hr

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 21C (70F); min 6pm to 6am, 9C (48F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 4hr

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	6.0	-	18	64	sunny
Anglesey	2.3	0.02	16	61	rain
Aviemore	8.6	-	18	64	sunny
Belfast	5.0	0.03	16	61	bright
Birmingham	4.7	-	17	63	cloudy
Bognor Regis	8.1	-	17	63	sunny
Bournemouth	2.3	-	15	59	cloudy
Bristol	1.7	-	17	63	cloudy
Buxton	9.2	-	16	61	sunny
Cardiff	0.4	0.19	15	59	rain
Clacton	13.1	-	16	61	sunny
Colwyn Bay	3.1	-	17	63	cloudy
Cromer	12.5	-	19	66	sunny
Edinburgh	6.3	-	16	61	bright
Eskdalemuir	0.9	-	16	61	cloudy
Exmouth	-	0.07	13	55	rain
Falmouth	0.2	0.30	14	57	shower
Folkestone	7.8	-	18	64	sunny
Glasgow	0.4	-	16	61	cloudy
Guernsey	1.1	0.10	16	61	cloudy
Hastings	9.0	-	18	64	sunny
Hunstanton	7.7	-	16	64	sunny
Isle of Man	5.1	0.05	14	57	rain
Jersey	0.3	0.01	15	59	shower
Leeds	7.3	-	19	66	bright
Lerwick	1.8	0.01	11	52	fog
Littlehampton	9.5	-	18	64	sunny
Liverpool	7.5	-	17	63	sunny
London	5.9	-	18	66	bright
Lowestoft	10.6	-	x	x	sunny
Manchester	9.2	-	18	64	sunny
Margate	12.7	-	20	68	sunny
Minehead	0.7	0.01	15	59	shower
Morecambe	5.9	-	18	66	bright
Newcastle	12.0	-	19	66	sunny
Nottingham	6.7	-	18	64	sunny
Penzance	0.8	0.34	14	57	rain
Plymouth	-	0.31	12	54	rain
Poole	2.0	-	15	59	cloudy
Salcombe	-	0.22	13	55	rain
Sandown	5.8	-	17	63	bright
Saunton Snd	-	0.06	15	59	cloudy
Scarborough	11.4	-	16	64	sunny
Scilly Isles	2.8	0.11	15	59	rain
Shanklin	5.8	-	16	61	bright
Southend	x	-	19	66	sunny
Southsea	5.8	-	16	61	cloudy
Stornoway	10.3	0.09	16	61	sunny
Swanage	2.1	0.03	13	55	rain
Tiree	7.0	-	14	57	bright
Torquay	-	0.07	14	57	cloudy
Worthing	8.2	-	17	63	sunny

*Denotes Not Available
These are Saturday's figures



London 9.29 pm to 4.27 am
Bristol 8.38 pm to 4.37 am
Edinburgh 10.5 pm to 4.15 am
Manchester 9.47 pm to 4.25 am
Penzance 8.44 pm to 4.55 am

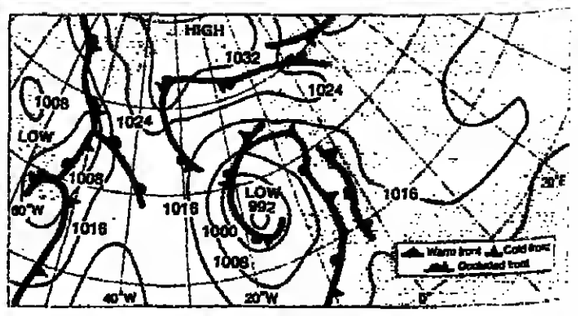
Sun rises: 4.57 am — Sun sets: 8.59 pm
Moon rises: 7.20 am — Moon sets: 11.39 pm
First Quarter May 28

Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989: The hours of darkness are defined in these Regulations as the period between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise.

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.15	7.0	4.35	7.0	Liverpool	1.27	9.1	1.50	9.0
Aberdeen	3.39	4.1	4.11	3.9	Lowestoft	11.56	2.4	—	—
Avonmouth	9.47	12.5	10.03	12.6	Margate	2.20	4.7	2.40	4.7
Belfast	1.17	3.4	1.39	3.1	Milford Haven	8.45	8.5	9.00	8.6
Cardiff	9.32	11.6	9.48	11.7	Newquay	7.35	6.6	7.53	6.7
Devonport	6.26	5.0	6.37	5.2	Oban	8.13	3.6	8.20	3.7
Dover	1.05	6.3	1.32	6.4	Penzance	7.27	5.1	7.39	5.2
Falmouth	7.56	4.8	8.07	5.0	Portland	9.23	1.8	9.35	1.9
Glasgow	3.12	4.6	3.44	4.2	Portsmouth	1.31	4.5	2.00	4.5
Harwich	2.12	3.8	2.27	3.8	Shoreham	1.20	5.9	1.50	5.9
Holyhead	12.32	5.4	12.57	5.2	Southampton	1.05	4.4	1.35	4.3
Hull	8.45	7.0	9.13	7.0	Swansea	8.48	8.9	9.04	9.0
Ilfracombe	8.30	8.7	8.44	8.8	Tees	6.05	5.1	6.23	5.0
King's Lynn	8.54	6.4	9.21	6.1	Walton-on-Naze	2.04	4.0	2.19	4.0

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.315	2.115
Austria Sch	18.70	17.20
Belgium Fr	54.70	50.30
Canada $	2.077	1.917
Denmark Kr	10.22	9.42
Finland Mkk	8.08	6.28
France Fr	8.83	8.23
Germany Dm	2.65	2.45
Greece Dr	353.00	330.00
Hong Kong $	12.56	11.58
Ireland Pt	1.075	0.985
Italy Lira	2375.00	2230.00
Japan Yen	187.75	169.75
Netherlands Gld	2.975	2.745
Norway Kr	11.17	10.37
Portugal Esc	249.00	231.00
South Africa Rd	6.15	5.35
Spain Pta	197.00	184.00
Sweden Kr	11.82	11.02
Switzerland Fr	2.39	2.21
Turkey Lira	16000.0	15000.0
USA $	1.642	1.512

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading Friday.



Information supplied by Met Office

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F	
Belfast		17	63	f	Guernsey	20	68	s
B'mngham		18	64	c	Inverness	14	57	s
Blackpool		16	64	f	Jersey	22	72	s
Bristol		20	68	s	London	19	66	f
Cardiff		20	68	f	M'nchster	17	63	f
Edinburgh		15	59	s	Newcastle	17	63	f
Glasgow		18	64	f	R'nldsway	14	57	c

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هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES 2

MONDAY MAY 24 1993

Australia complete whitewash

Tame England throw away winning chance

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

LORD'S (England won toss): Australia beat England by 19 runs

TOO late to count, but not too late to matter, England gave the most impressive all-round performance of the Texaco Trophy series yesterday. Unfortunately, they sustained it only until tea-time, after which they contrived to turn a routine victory into an undignified defeat with a session of batting wretched even by their own recent standards.

Needing only 231, England were 96 without loss in the 24th over. Even in the maelstrom of one-day cricket, this is usually thought a fireproof position. But not for this team.

In the next 21 overs, six wickets fell for 73. One was stumped off a wide, one run out with both batsmen at the same end and two more caught from panicky shots in the same, pivotal over. There was no way back from there and, despite another rollicking innings from Graham Thorpe, the crowd went home quietly bemused.

It was a pitiful surrender against an Australian side that had shown every indication of simply enjoying the festive atmosphere of a sunny Sunday at Lord's, the Texaco silverware and most of the available cash already safely stashed away. Defeat, for them, would not have been *half as damaging as it is for* England.

For the team that could, and should, have won the World Cup little more than a year ago, it is all becoming embarrassing. Seven consecutive one-day internationals have been lost and the disciplines essential to the short game have been neglected.

It would be foolish to pretend that these are irrelevant preliminaries and that all will be well when the Ashes are at stake. Allan Border will verify how much confidence the Australians of 1989 gleaned from the corresponding game. They discovered then that England were not all they were cracked up to be. In time, they found they were not very good at all.

Stewart: lost fluency

Yesterday, England exposed some encouraging frailties in the Australian batting through bowling, from Andy Caddick and Dominic Cork, that confined and frustrated them. For a time, they then emphasised the shallowness of their bowling attack. Get past McDermott, so the theory grew, and you have runs ready to bank.

Brendon Julian seemed to support that view. His first three overs in a one-day international cost 27 runs But in his next eight, the imposing left-armer from Perth took three for 23.

The mood of the two camps was betrayed in team selection. Australia wanted to give at least one game to Damien Martyn and Julian; to accommodate them, Border was one of those to stand down.

England, by contrast, omitted Mark Lathwell once again. They will justify the intransigence by saying that the priority was to win the game, that Graham Gooch needed another innings and Thorpe deserved one.

They will doubtless add that Lathwell has profited from a taste of the big time but I would have thought that one who has played so little cricket would have been better employed batting for his county than fetching and carrying in the England dressing-room.

Somerset intend to play him in their second team today to make up for lost time.

Gooch is planning something similar himself. As Essex have no cricket now until the first Test, he will probably turn out for the second team at Colchester on Wednesday. It is a sensible precaution by a man who relishes plenty of batting but it also shows his concern over a sequence of 17 innings, in Tests and one-day internationals, without a single half-century.

He looked for all the world as if he would terminate that unwanted statistic yesterday. When he swivelled on his toes to whip Hughes through mid-wicket for four, a shot he plays only when at one with his game, there was reason for every England supporter to cheer. But, just before tea, he was caught at long-leg, sweeping, and the game was never the same again.

Stewart lost his fluency, taking 18 overs to add 20 after tea before falling in the same over as Neil Fairbrother. Neither will be proud of their shots but then, with the exception of Caddick, Thorpe and Smith, the English have had little to feel proud about all week.

Johnson joins in week's revelry

By Ivo Tennant

THIS has been a week of revelry for run-makers. Robin Smith takes most of the plaudits, and rightly so, but there was an innings in the Axa Equity & Law Sunday League yesterday that rivalled his century against Australia *for sheer power and* achievement.

Paul Johnson struck an unbeaten 167 off 106 balls that gave Nottinghamshire the most emphatic victory over Kent, who were leading the table with some style.

This was no out-ground with short boundaries but Trent Bridge, where the likes of Parr, Sobers and Hadlee *have hit the ball prodigious* distances in the past. After this innings, Johnson quite evidently can be mentioned in the same breath.

He struck 20 fours and seven sixes in an innings lasting 129 minutes. Nottinghamshire, astonishingly, managed to reach their target of 265 with more than 14 overs to spare. It was not the day for McCague to return to Kent's attack.

There have been frequent occasions in the last few seasons when Johnson has looked an England batsman in the making. He has been described thus more times *than he would care to* remember.

At 28, he can no longer be called a promising youngster but he does give the ball an almighty thump. He meted out particularly harsh treatment to McCague and Fleming, putting on an unbroken 213 in 28 overs with Robinson, his captain, who wisely gave him all the strike he *could.*

It need hardly be said that it was Johnson's highest — as well as his finest — innings in the Sunday league. Kent, who had made a total of 264 for nine and whose second-wicket pair had batted with elan — Ward and Hooper put on 218 — knew not where to bowl at him. They will not want to again.

Poles apart: Michael Whitaker, on Everest Midnight Madness, clears a fence in style during their breathtaking clear round in a jump-off against the clock. It carried them to victory in the Homepride British Grand Prix at Hickstead yesterday. Report, page 28

England won toss

AUSTRALIA

		6s	4s	Min	Ball
*M A Taylor c Stewart b Reeve *drive edged low to keeper*	57	—	3	155	104
M L Hayden c Stewart b Caddick *gloved ball down leg side*	4	—	—	22	19
M E Waugh c Stewart b Caddick *edged catch in front of first slip*	14	—	2	25	23
D C Boon b Illingworth *sweeping, bowled round legs*	73	—	9	144	125
D R Martyn not out	51	—	5	62	4
S R Waugh c Gooch b Caddick *skier to mid-on*	9	—	1	9	9
†I A Healy not out	12	—	—	9	10
Extras (lb 3, w 6, nb 2)	11				
Total (5 wkts, 217 min, 55 overs)	230				

M G Hughes, B P Julian, C J McDermott and T B A May did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12 (Taylor 7), 2-31 (Taylor 8), 3-139 (Boon 55), 4-193 (Martyn 36), 5-208 (Martyn 41).

BOWLING: Jarvis 11-1-51-0 (w 3) (3-0-1-0, 4-1-13-0, 4-0-28-0); Caddick 11-3-39-3 (7-3-11-2, 2-0-12-0, 2-0-16-1); Cork 8-2-24-0 (6-2-12-0, 3-0-12-0); Illingworth 10-0-46-0 (7-0-32-0, 3-0-14-1); Reeve 11-1-50-1 (w 3) (one spell), Hick 3-0-17-0 (one spell).

ENGLAND

		6s	4s	Min	Ball
*G A Gooch c Hughes b May *top-edged sweep to deep square leg*	42	—	4	96	77
†A J Stewart c M Waugh b Julian *backfoot drive to backward point*	74	—	10	174	119
R A Smith st Healy b May *stretching forward to a wide*	6	—	—	23	22
G A Hick b Julian *played round straight ball*	7	—	1	18	13
N H Fairbrother c Boon b Julian *driving to cover*	18	—	1	29	25
G P Thorpe c Healy b S Waugh *edged catch low to keeper*	22	—	2	41	24
D A Reeve run out (S Waugh-Julian) *ran when Thorpe stood his ground*	2	—	—	9	8
D G Cork b Hughes *heaving at straight ball*	11	—	—	21	16
R K Illingworth c Healy b Hughes *diving catch to edged outswinger*	9	—	1	16	10
P W Jarvis c Hayden b McDermott *brilliant one-handed catch at deep point*	3	—	—	7	5
A R Caddick not out	2	—	—	3	1
Extras (lb 6, w 8, nb 1)	15				
Total (224min, 53.1 overs)	211				

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-96 (Stewart 48), 2-115 (Stewart 59), 3-129 (Stewart 65), 4-159 (Stewart 74), 5-160 (Thorpe 1), 6-169 (Thorpe 8), 7-195 (Thorpe 21), 8-201 (Illingworth 5), 9-208 (Illingworth 8).

BOWLING: McDermott 10-1-35-1 (nb 1) (6-1-17-0, 3-0-11-0, 1-0-7-1); Hughes 10.1-0-41-2 (w 1) (3-0-15-0, 5-0-14-0, 2-0-12-1, 0.1-0-0-1); Julian 11-1-50-3 (w 4) (3-0-27-0, 8-1-23-3); May 11-1-36-2 (w 2) (one spell); S Waugh 11-0-43-1 (w 1) (2-0-8-0, 9-0-35-1).

Umpires: H D Bird and R Palmer.

Man of the match: B P Julian. Men of the series: England: R A Smith. Australia: C J McDermott.

Swashbuckling Senna wins sixth Monaco title

From Oliver Holt in Monte Carlo

AYRTON Senna cemented his reputation as the true successor to the swashbuckling racing greats of the past when he won the treacherous Monaco Formula One grand prix for a sixth time yesterday and reclaimed the lead in this year's drivers' championship.

The Brazilian eclipsed the 24-year-old record of the late Graham Hill in a race so thrilling and unpredictable that it breathed new life into a season that was showing signs of going stale.

"If my father were here, he would be the first to congratulate Ayrton," Damon Hill, who finished second in his Williams-Renault after surviving a late collision with Gerhard Berger's Ferrari, said. "I think it is as much a tribute to my father as it is to Ayrton that it has taken someone of his calibre to beat the record."

Despite Senna's juddery crash during practice on Thursday, there had seemed a curious inevitability about *him* claiming his fifth successive win here despite uncomfortable bruising to his left hand, which he admitted took the edge of his driving.

The Brazilian claimed the first podium appearance of his career in Monaco with Toleman in 1984 before winning with Lotus in 1987 and establishing a near-invincibility *on* the tight, twisting streets that are recognised as the sternest test of driver skill.

The Fates are with him here. Last year, he won when Nigel Mansell lost a huge lead with a long pit stop. Yesterday, again competing with an inferior engine to his chief rivals, Alain Prost and Michael Schumacher, he profited from their misfortunes to record his 39th grand prix victory.

Prost, who has struggled with his starts all season and must have been aware that Schumacher and Senna would charge for the first corner, clearly lurched forward before the green light went on to signal the beginning of the race and took the lead.

Senna: inevitability

"I thought it was one of the best starts of my career," the Frenchman said. But the race officials did not agree and ordered him to take a penalty of ten seconds in the pits.

When he complied, on the twelfth lap, he stalled the engine twice, reviving unhappy memories of his performance in the European grand prix at Donington. By the time he restarted, his chances of equalling Graham Hill's record had disappeared, although he fought his way back up the field to finish fourth.

Schumacher took over the lead and had established a lead of 19 seconds over Senna by the twentieth lap. But, 13 laps on, when he was still comfortably ahead, his Benetton-Ford developed an active suspension problem and slowed to a sorry halt at the Loews hairpin.

Senna never looked back, even affording himself the luxury of a tyre change on the 51st lap to give himself fresh impetus on new rubber. "It was a perfect victory," he said. "Monaco has always been special to me and it continues to be so."

All the subsequent action occurred behind him with first the two Saubers, of J J Lehto and Karl Wendlinger, and then the two Ferraris, of Jean Alesi and Berger, engaging in potentially mutually destructive internecine warfare.

The Ferrari pair survived one tangle at Loews, but when Berger then caught Hill, who was struggling to overtake backmarkers in second place at the same hairpin, his aggression ran riot. Hill blocked his move and the pair ended up in a pile up with Zanardi that blocked the track.

"He tried to overtake me, but I had to shut the door on him and he tapped me." Hill said. "I was fuming. It was a farcical situation, but I managed to get reverse gear working and get away."

Hill admitted afterwards he had driven cautiously. "The only way to get past here is to muscle through and I was a bit wary of doing that," he said.

Nevertheless, he moved into third place in the drivers' championship, gained another second place, a further boost to his confidence and more respect for his candour.

When Senna reached over to grasp his hand during the post-race press conference, he was not merely accepting the plaudits Hill had accorded him but recognising that the Williams driver, as well as himself, are worthy successors to the racing spirit of his father.

David Miller, page 22
Results, page 22

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Leading Formula One teams reluctant to give up technological superiority

Computers push drivers closer to short circuit

David Miller finds motor racing at odds with itself over the pace of progress in computer technology

Fancy driving in the Monaco grand prix? The way computers are progressing, within a year or so you or I could do so. No joking. Prost, Senna, Hill and the rest will be redundant unless sporting sanity is restored.

In the countdown to yesterday's race, Fisa, the sport's governing body, was holding private meetings with Frank Williams and Ron Dennis, attempting to forestall wasteful arbitration by the respective heads of the dominant Williams-Renault and McLaren Ford teams in their resistance to limits on computer-aids from next season.

Today's is a different world from that of Fangio, Moss, and even Graham Hill, whose Monaco record Senna surpassed with victory yesterday. Senna, who said he had momentarily feared he would severely injure his legs in his accident on Thursday, nonetheless described this tortuous track as the sternest remaining test of drivers' ability and concentration, and said it was an historic part of motor racing.

The injury to his left, stronger hand had been a handicap and, at times, he said he had briefly felt unsafe. Yet victory was no indication that he would win the title. "Williams have such technical superiority," he said. "It will be difficult to compete with them over the more conventional tracks, let alone beat them."

The big four, in terms of technology investment in driver-computers — McLaren, Williams, Footwork and Ligier — have been given an ultimatum: unless all teams agree, computers will be barred from 1994. The big four have failed as yet to get support from Ferrari, Benetton, Lotus and the rest; the only way they can sustain their technological advantage is to take the issue to arbitration by the independent Institute of Chamber of Commerce in Lausanne.

At the heart of the dispute is not merely whether cars should be driven by men or by electronics, but whether sponsors can continue to foot the bill. Walter Thomas, president of Philip Morris, the sport's biggest sponsor, warned three days ago against the danger of ever escalating costs.

Sn all-embracing have the boffins of Formula One become that races are controlled, even manipulated, more from the pits than by the drivers on the track. It is technically possible, for instance, that in the previous grand prix at Barcelona, where Hill's engine failed during his pursuit of Prost, the winner, somebody could have deliberately over-heated Hill's engine by remote control to ensure he did not win.

"I don't think anyone would do that," Senna said before the start yesterday. "But it could be possible."

One aspect of the argument is whether the computer restrictions come under "sporting" or "technical" regulations. The former need to be changed by October 31 for the following year's series. The latter have to be introduced by December 31 for the next but one series, 1995.

Having invested heavily in the driver-replacement techniques, Williams and Dennis understandably want to hold on to their advantage, at least for another year. Moreover, in Senna's opinion, the ban would, in fact, mean more expense, not less, as the top teams searched for other new technical advances in what has always been a development sport.

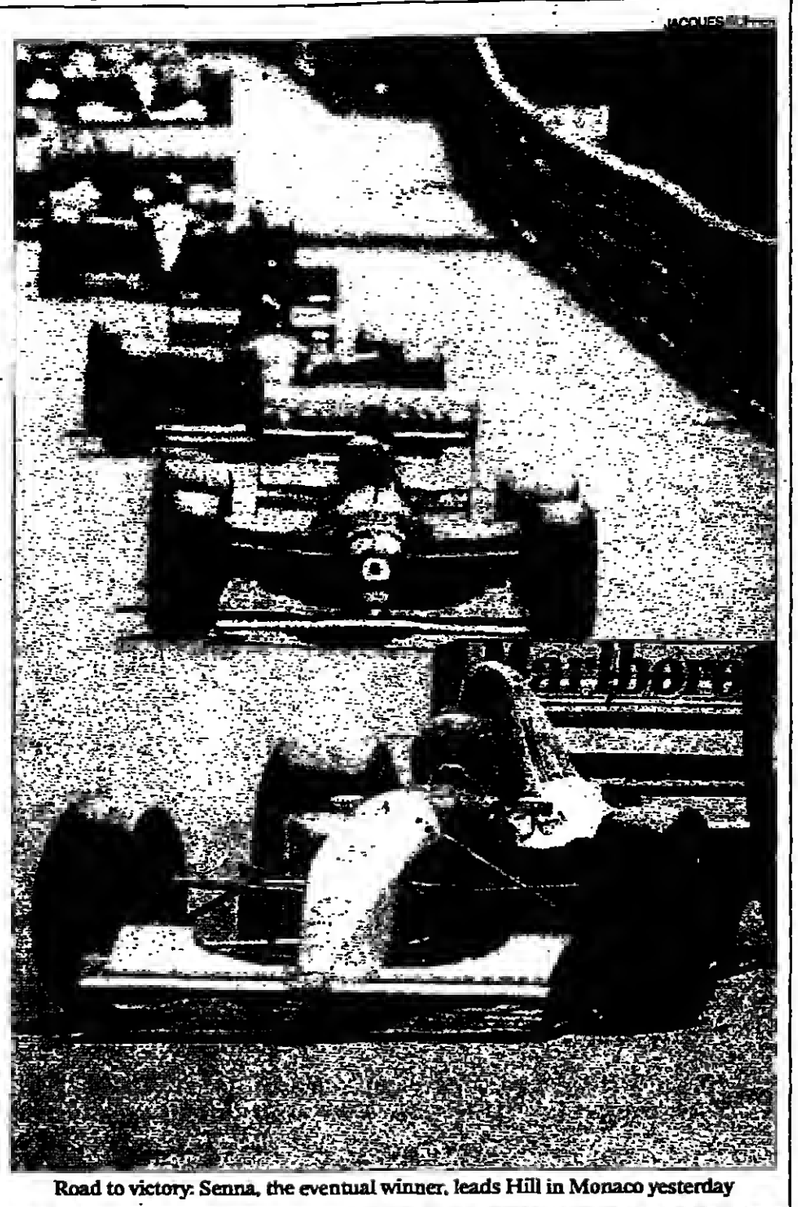
Technical disputes form part of the history of the sport, the first ever race — 100 years ago next July — having been determined by the disqualification of the leading car.

The difficulty for Fisa is how to monitor the degree of remote-control pit manipulation. "We only know 50 per cent of what is happening out there," Max Mosley, the president of Fisa, said yesterday. "The computers can calculate to within centimetres exactly where the car is on the track, the pits know minutely what the engine or the chassis is doing second by second."

The top teams are already capable of sending a car round the course without a driver when there is no other car on the track. By placing the centre of aerodynamic pressure in front of the centre of gravity, computers can control the turn by variation of the angle between car and road and by rear-wheel drive, with a sensitivity measured in hundredths of a second.

Fisa is threatening to monitor the driver-aids by the installation of a black box in every car. Yet once the governing body reaches such a stage, surely this is no longer a sport?

"This is a situation where, basically, the more you spend the faster you go," Mosley said. "Our job is to try to ensure that the graph of expenditure against increase in speed is as flat as possible, otherwise we are in danger of destabilising our sponsors".



Road to victory: Senna, the eventual winner, leads Hill in Monaco yesterday

DETAILS FROM MONTE CARLO

1, A Senna (Br, McLaren-Ford), 1hr 52min 10.947sec (avg speed: 136.837kph, 85.269mph); 2, D Hill (GB, Williams-Renault), 52.118sec behind; 3, J Alesi (Fr, Ferrari), 1min 08.362sec. One lap behind: 4, A Prost (Fr, Williams-Renault). Two laps behind: 5, C Fittipaldi (Br, Minardi-Ford), 2 laps, 6, M Brundle (GB, Ligier-Renault); 7, A Zanardi (It, Lotus-Ford); 8, M Andretti (US, McLaren-Ford); 9, R Barrichello (Br, Jordan-Hart); 10, A De Cesaris (It, Tyrrell-Yamaha). Three laps: 11, F Barbazza (It, Minardi-Ford); 12, P Alliot (Fr, Larrousse-Lamborghini). Four laps: 13, K Wendlinger (Austria, Sauber). Eight laps: 14, G Berger (Austria, Ferrari).

Did not finish (with laps completed): 15, J Herbert (GB, Lotus-Ford), 51; 16, R Patrese (It, Benetton-Ford), 53; 17, E Comas (Fr, Larrousse-Lamborghini), 51; 18, A Suzuki (Japan, Footwork Mugen-Honda), 48; 19, D Warwick (GB, Footwork Mugen-Honda), 43; 20, M Schumacher (Ger, Benetton-Ford), 32; 21, U Katayama (Japan, Tyrrell-Yamaha), 31; 22, M Alboreto (It, BMS Lola-Ferrari), 28; 23, J J Lehto (Fin, Sauber), 23; 24, T Boutsen (Bel, Jordan-Hart), 12; 25, M Blundell (GB, Ligier-Renault), 3.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS: Drivers: 1, A Senna (Br), 42pts; 2, A Prost (Fr), 37; 3, D Hill (GB), 18; 4, M Schumacher (Ger), 14; equal 5, M Blundell (GB) and J Herbert (GB), 8; equal 7, J J Lehto (Fin), R Patrese (It), M Brundle (GB), C Fittipaldi (Br), 5; 11, J Alesi (Fr), 4; equal 12, P Alliot (Fr), M Andretti (US), F Barbazza (It) and G Berger (Austria), 2; 16, A Zanardi (It), 1. Constructors: 1, Williams-Renault, 55pts; 2, McLaren Ford, 44; 3, Benetton Ford, 19; 4, Ligier Renault, 11; equal 5, Lotus Ford and Minardi Ford, 7; 7, Ferrari, 6; 8, Sauber, 5; 9, Larrousse Lamborghini, 2.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Jackman falls again at final hurdle

CASSANDRA Jackman's push for domination of women's squash was repulsed in Tokyo yesterday by Michelle Martin, the Australian who has filled the world No 1 spot vacated by Susan Devoy, of New Zealand (Colin McQuillan writes). Martin defeated Jackman, 20, the English champion, 9-3, 9-7, 9-7 in the final of the JSM Supersquash 93 tournament, adding the second richest prize on the women's world tour to the Canadian, Guernsey and British Open titles she has won since Devoy retired last October.

As world junior champion, Jackman joined the world tour two years ago and reached three semi-finals and a final in her next five tournaments. Now, however, she has contested four major finals without capturing her first title on the senior tour.

Drug ban call to IAAF

ATHLETICS: German officials yesterday stepped up their campaign for a reduction in the minimum four-year ban for serious doping offences. As a three-day meeting of the ruling council of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) opened, August Kirsch, a German council member, confirmed the German athletics federation (DLV) would table a proposal in August for a reduction, possibly to two years. The DLV, facing legal difficulties in a case involving the sprinter, Katrin Krabbe, says the present ban would not be supported if athletes resorted to German civil courts.

Rozsa seeks switch

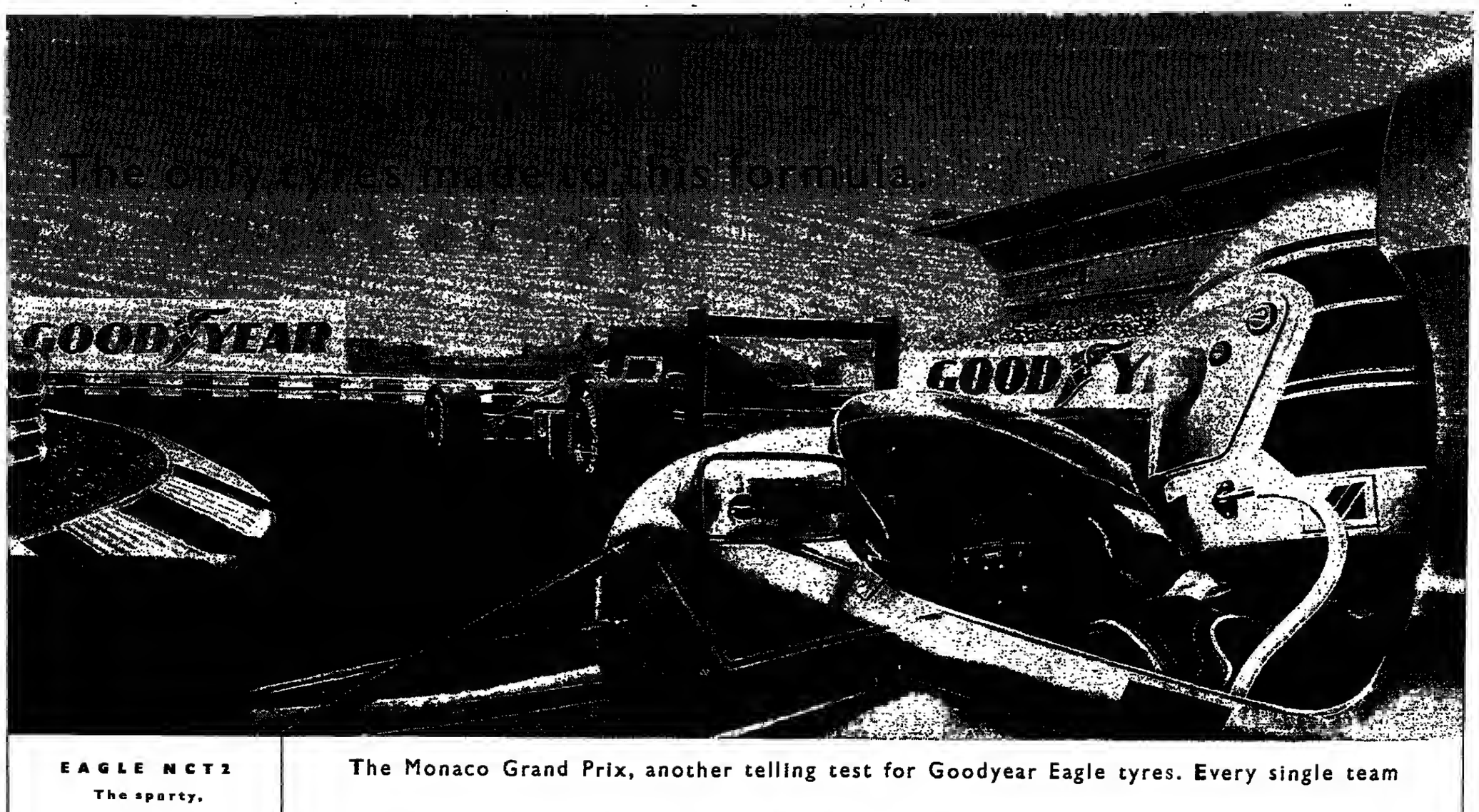
SWIMMING: Norbert Rozsa, of Hungary, the world breaststroke champion, is planning to move permanently to Australia and wants to swim for his new country at the Atlanta Olympic Games in 1996. Rozsa, 21, who won two silver medals at the Barcelona Olympics and holds the world record at 100 metres, is presently living in Perth on a temporary sportsman's visa. Gerry Stachewicz, his Australian coach, said he should have no problems getting citizenship before the 1996 Games.

Lineker hits target

FOOTBALL: Gary Lineker helped his Japanese club, Grampus Eight, of Nagoya, to beat Marinos, of Yokohoma, 4-3 in a penalty shoot-out in the new professional J League on Saturday. The former England striker scored from the spot after the teams finished level at 1-1 at the end of sudden-death extra time. Nogueira headed Marinos ahead but Grampus equalised through Shigeo Sawairi. Rudi Voeller, Marseille's German striker, will sign for the Japanese club, Yomiuri Nippon, in June, reports said yesterday.

Coles avoids mishaps

GOLF: Two visits to the 11-acre lake at St Pierre, Chepstow, robbed last year's runner-up, Tommy Horton, of victory yesterday in the Gary Player Seniors Classic, first event of the 1993 PGA European Seniors Tour. First place went to Neil Coles, 58, who has added ten senior wins to the 28 victories he gained on the regular tour. Coles finished with a level par 71, but his triumph was made possible by a magnificent five-under-par 66 on the second day.



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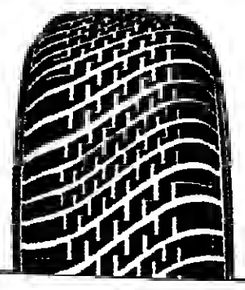

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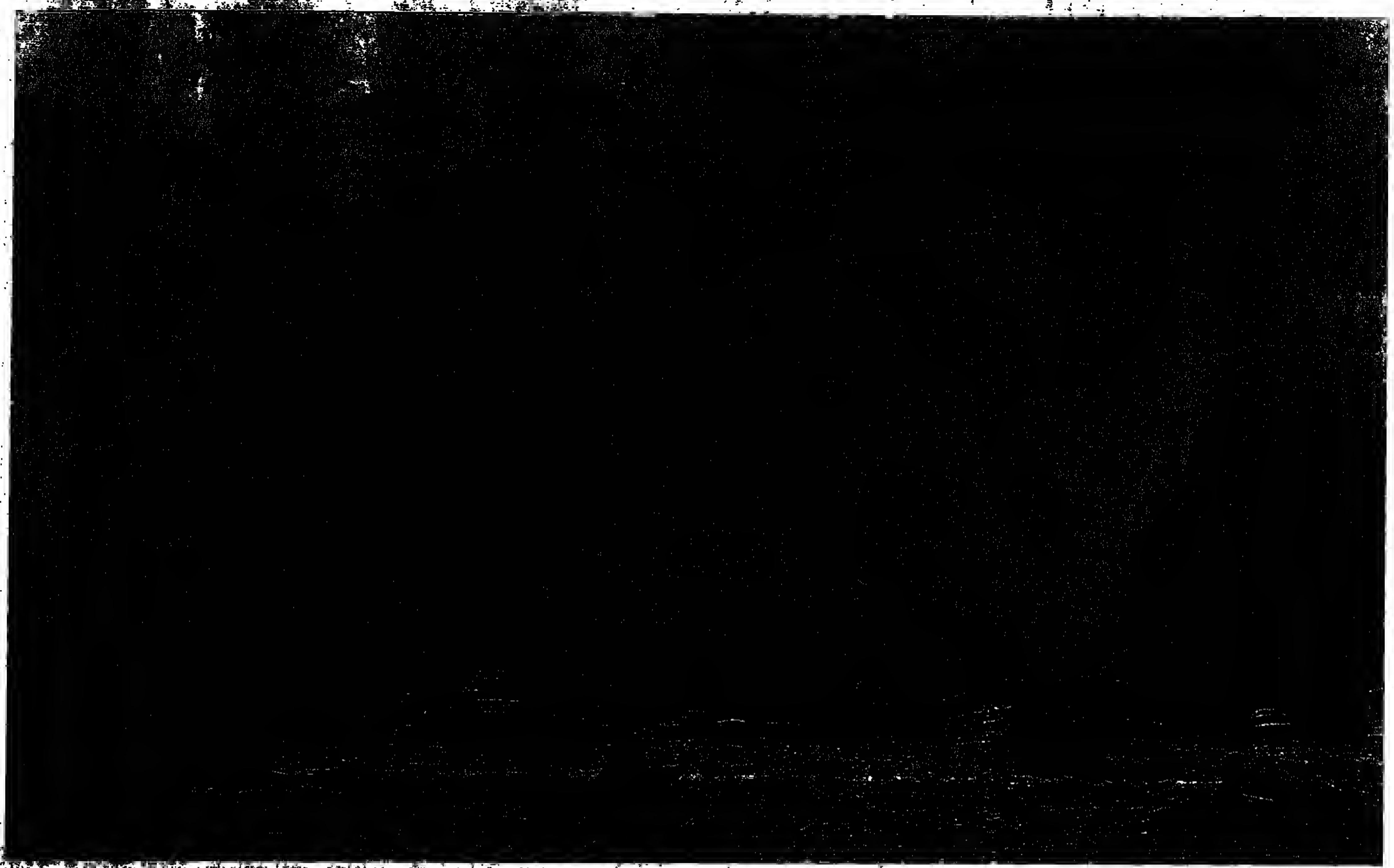
Waiting over as wizened mariners end epic voyage

Andrew Longmore at Southampton sees the final change of fortune for the crews of the British Steel Challenge



The one that got away: Group 4 Securitas leads the British Steel Challenge fleet in the Solent yesterday, only to be pipped for overall honours by Nuclear Electric. Photograph: Tim Bishop

At six o'clock in the evening, just before their final watch on the British Steel Challenge, Mike Golding called the crew of *Group 4 Securitas* together one last time. "The challenge of this race was not simply to sail round the world, but to win the race," he told them. "I hadn't intended to make 13 new friends, but I have and, thanks to you, we have come close to winning." Close, but, in the end, not close enough.

Two botched sail changes or a minor misreading of the elements was all that separated Group 4, the winners of the last two legs and the first boat across the finishing line in the Solent yesterday, from Nuclear Electric, the overall winners of the Challenge. A mere 70 minutes after 151 days and 28,000 miles of ocean racing. No wonder a tinge of disappointment coloured the edges of achievement for Golding and his crew.

"It's frustrating. But they deserve to win," Golding said. "They've been very consistent from the start. We could point to a few 'what ifs. .?', but so could everyone else." But what if the damage to two bottle screws had not cost Group 4 an unscheduled 48-hour stop in Brazil on the second leg? A shrug said it all.

Southampton at least put on its sunny Sunday best to welcome the ten crews back to normality yesterday. Bands played, horns blared, families wept and each yacht was greeted by a suitable anthem. *Simply the Best* for Group 4; *What a Wonderful World* for Nuclear Electric. Crews stood on deck and applauded each of their rivals in and later swapped stories like wizened mariners. A Newcastle United flag fluttered in the wind, reminding John Gibson, on Commercial Union, that his favourite team had stayed on top of the first division, where he had left them nine months ago. Another Geordie, Trevor Harvey, had a surprise in store. "I've found him a job, but I don't know how to tell him." Enid, his mother, said, "It'll be a bit of a shock." It was all a far cry from a cramped backroom at the Boat Show in London where Golding had first set eyes on the motley collection of consultants, lecturers, accountants and dentists who were to invade his life for the next two years. For many of the skippers, no less than for the amateur crews, this was a step in the dark. Yet, unlike their charges, they had to pretend they knew what they were doing all the time. No room for self-doubt or panic when 14 pairs of eyes are looking at you for an answer.

Golding's training as watch leader in the Royal Berkshire fire and rescue service had prepared him to shoulder some, but not all, the responsibilities of guiding, cajoling, bullying and jollying many very different characters into sharing a common cause.

"It's a bit more subtle than the fire service," he said. "You don't have a universal sense of discipline. Everyone has their own ideas about it, so you have to find a level they can live with. I gave them hell the first leg, then I let up a bit and each leg has got easier and easier."

Characters as diverse as David Cowan, a laid-back drama lecturer from St Albans, and Mike O'Regan, a go-ahead accountant from Walton-on-Thames, who posted mottos on the galley wall to encourage positive thinking. "Winners are not people without problems they are people who overcome problems," he wrote. The mental problems of readjustment, though, might prove more difficult than changing a sail in a Force Ten. What is left for the encore?

"Sitting watching the nine o'clock news with Mum and Dad is not going to be quite as riveting as sailing round the world," Christine Janes, the former Christine Truman, a finalist at Wimbledon, said. Janes's eldest son, Nigel, had shocked the family first by applying to go on the Challenge and then by following it through to a victorious conclusion on Nuclear Electric.

"Having loved something very much myself, I knew what it was like to want to do something very much," she said. What she had not understood was how much harder it is to watch and wait than to perform.

"Nine months have seemed like nine years," she said. "I'm far more nervous following it and now listening to it all than I ever was before a match. I have dark rings under my eyes. I could never have played in this condition. I'm very proud of what he has done, but I think it will be an awful letdown."

Tony Marsden, a consultant technician based in Hong Kong, was already looking forward to the official awards dinner in late September. "I'm very sad it's all over," he said. "A lot of us don't really know what we're going to do. It's been nine months out of our lives. Where do you go from here?"

At the Langley fire station, near Slough, the day watch will have to wait a few more weeks for their round-the-world skipper to return to the ranks. Golding has some duties to perform on behalf of the Challenge and his boat's sponsors before he goes back to work at the end of July. "I'm looking forward to it: they'll bring me back down to earth quick enough," he said. Terra firma, for once.

Chittenden's safety-first racing tactics pay off in close-run thing

By Barry Pickthall

JOHN Chittenden and his crew on Nuclear Electric yesterday won the British Steel Challenge yacht race around the world in an electrifying finish off Southampton that saw victory over Mike Golding's Group 4 Securitas measured in minutes.

After racing 28,000 miles against the prevailing winds and currents, the difference between the two was a nail-biting one hour ten minutes, after allowances have been made for both crews when they went to aid other yachts during this final stage home.

The outcome could easily have gone the other way. Indeed, when the Group 4 crew swept up Southampton Water under spinnaker shortly before 8am, Chittenden's crew was still rounding St Albans Head off Weymouth with a deadline of seven hours to complete the final 41 miles.

"It was close," Chittenden admitted as his delighted crew began firing champagne at each other on arrival at Ocean Village. "We were in sight of Group 4 on several occasions during the voyage from Cape Town and only lost ground on them during the last few days. At the end we were fighting an ebb tide up the Solent and any slackening in the wind would have cost us the race." It is the closest finish by far in any global marathon and capped a remarkable voyage undertaken by these ten amateur crews against the spin of the globe, many of whom had never thought of sailing before taking the gauntlet thrown down by Chay Blyth.

Their track followed the pioneering course he set alone non-stop aboard the original British Steel 21 years ago, except that these 179 amateurs who took part in all or part of this challenge, made stops at Rio de Janeiro, Hobart and Cape Town.

Sceptics wrote it off as a madcap scheme. Inexperienced volunteers would either drown or give up in Hobart, most thought. Sadly, one man, Bill Vincent, did drown, in the calm, warm seas close to the equator. And as for giving up, only four of the 109 who planned to sail the complete course, threw in the towel.

Mike Golding was philosophical about his last-minute defeat. "That's ocean racing. It's certainly been a nerve-wracking last few days, especially on Saturday when we ran out of wind in the Channel. Then we had a 20-mile lead over Commercial Union and British Steel II, and knew we could lose it all during one watch."

The Group 4 crew still had a great deal to celebrate. Not only were they the fastest yacht from Cape Horn to the finish, but had yesterday's stage victory to add to their previous win from Hobart to Cape Town. They can also reflect on the fact that, had they not lost 48 hours diverting to Florianopolis in Brazil to make repairs, they would almost certainly have won overall.

By contrast, Chittenden and his crew earned their victory with a safety-first approach. The 52-year-old skipper is cautious by nature and always held back when the going got really tough in the Southern Ocean. After finishing seventh on the first stage to Rio, two places behind Group 4, Chittenden and his crew were one of the few to escape the major rigging problems that led to the dismasting of British Steel II and bottlescrew failures on four other yachts during the second stage around Cape Horn. Nuclear Electric won that stage, her crew oblivious to a deep split in her keel, and finished third on the following leg to Cape Town which Group 4 won by more than a day.

Chittenden, who skippered the cruising maxi Creighton's Naturally in the last Whitbread round-the-world race four years ago, is a master mariner by trade and the most experienced of all the skippers. With the finish of this British Steel Challenge, he becomes the first man to race around the world in both directions.

Blyth, who inspired so many to take up this tough challenge at a cost of £15,000 per head, now has plans for a second race in four years time taking the same general course around the world. "We want to make it an international event, attracting crews from other countries," he said.

The yachts will be taking part in several other challenges this summer, including the Cutty Sark Tall Ships race from Newcastle in July and cruises to the Arctic Circle and Fastnet Rock.

POSITIONS: (Fourth stage from Cape Town to Southampton): 1, Group 4 Securitas (M Golding), 35 days 19 hours 33 mins; 2, Commercial Union (R Merriweather), 35:20:27; 3, British Steel II (R Tudor), 35:20:43; 4, Nuclear Electric (J Chittenden), 36:01:41; 5, Rhone-Poulenc (P Phillips), 36:01:41. OTHER POSITIONS at 14:00 GMT (with miles to Southampton): 6, Coopers & Lybrand (V Cherry), 41 miles; 7, Hofbrau Lager (P Goss), 42; 8, Pride of Teesside (J MacGillivray), 62; 9, Interspray (P Jeffes), 217; Heath Insured (A Donovan), 626.

OVERALL PLACINGS (before allowances for rescue diversions): 1, Nuclear Electric, 151:11:49; 2, Group 4 Securitas, 151:13:59; (positions 3 to 7 will be filled by those yachts that are still at sea) 8, Rhone-Poulenc, 159:04:07; 9, Commercial Union, 159:17:26; 10, British Steel II, 163:00:25.

Winners return, page I
Back to other half, page 14

Gatien's resilience brings him title

From Richard Eaton in Gothenburg

JEAN-PHILIPPE Gatien became the first Frenchman to take a world singles table tennis title when he won his fourth five-game match in five contests to beat Jean-Michel Saive, of Belgium, runner-up now in both the European and world championships. Gatien, Olympic silver medal winner and English Open champion, won 21-19, 17-21, 21-14, 17-21, 21-18 in a manner that should prove excellent for the sport's image.

Although the final was characterised by attacking rallies too short and staccato to make it a great spectacle, Gatien is a dashing player and a photogenic winner who is perhaps the greatest heart-throb in the game. He won a battle of two fierce forehand topspin loops by coming from 13-11 down in the final game when it seemed Saive's slightly heavier artillery might prevail. But Gatien, always mentally strong, produced a flick winner against the service and four points off his next five service deliveries to set up a hard-earned victory.

Saive will be remembered as the player who eliminated the Olympic champion, Jan-Ove Waldner, on Saturday, a result that probably took several thousand off the gate. Thus all three of the Swedish squad that won the world team title last Monday failed to go as far as expected.

This was a tournament of remarkable surprises. There were no Asian men's singles semi-finalists for the first time in 40 years and the women's singles win by Hyun Jung-Hwa, of South Korea, on Saturday made it the first time since 1977 there were no Chinese singles winners.

Earlier, the International Table Tennis Federation at last announced the date of its glue ban as June 1, 1994. "This creates a dilemma it will not be easy to resolve," the chairman of the English Table Tennis Association, Alan Ransome, said. England has already banned all glues for its players and events, but now the European championships in Birmingham in April will have to allow players to use ITTF listed glues.

Results, page 25

THE BRITISH STEEL CHALLENGE IS NOT ABOUT PLAIN SAILING. IT IS, QUITE SIMPLY, THE TOUGHEST YACHT RACE IN THE WORLD. AND, AT COMMERCIAL UNION, WE'RE PROUD TO BE A PART OF IT. OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERY CREW. NOT LEAST OUR OWN, WHO HAVE JUST ARRIVED HOME SAFELY, IN THE FINAL DASH FROM CAPETOWN. WELCOME BACK. AND WELL DONE. WE'RE IN THE BUSINESS OF TAKING RISKS, BUT NEVER ONE SO EXCITING. COMMERCIAL UNION. WE WON'T MAKE A DRAMA OUT OF A CRISIS.

Kinane formulates Derby alliance with Abdulla team

By Julian Muscat

AFTER a hectic weekend of negotiations over the Derby between trainers and jockeys, the most significant move is that Michael Kinane is expected to ride Khaled Abdulla's second runner at Epsom on June 2.

Other arrangements pair Frankie Dettori with the American challenger, Wolf Prince and Cash Asmussen with Geisway. Lester Piggott was confirmed as riding Vincent O'Brien's Fatherland.

Under the terms of his second retainer with Irish trainer John Oxx, Kinane's Derby mount would have been the Oxx-trained Advocat. But that colt's poor display in the Hotel Conrad Silver Race at the Curragh on Saturday has opened the way for the jockey to accept outside offers.

Current thinking is that Ireland's champion jockey will partner Commander In Chief, the subject of considerable support with Ladbrokes after working more authoritatively than Tenby, the Derby favourite, at Newmarket on Saturday. Commander In Chief is now 6-1 with the company, who have eased Tenby from 5-2 on to 13-8 on.

Kinane has already established a successful alliance with trainer Henry Cecil. He rode the stable's second string, Belmez, to win the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes in 1990, and although connections insist Abdulla has yet to make a final decision, it would come as a surprise were Kinane not aboard Commander In Chief rather than Armiger.

Abdulla has become attached to this colt for sentimental reasons. Commander In Chief is by Abdulla's Arc de Triomphe winner, Rainbow Quest, and is a half-brother to his champion miler, Warning.

That, coupled with the Saudi Arabian's preference for the Epsom Derby to its European counterparts, should be enough to ensure Commander In Chief's participation. Armiger would only be considered if the ground is soft.

The weakening in Tenby's odds for the Derby suggests all is not well with Abdulla's principal hope, the mount of Pat Eddery. However, Mike Dillon, the spokesman for Ladbrokes, explained it by saying: "The market is so dead that even the slightest flurry sends shock waves through it."

Cecil also rallied to the defence of his colt, who has always been something of a lazy worker at home. He expressed oo concern at the colt's inability to run down Commander In Chief, Allegan, and Placerville over about a mile on Racecourse Side. He also reported Tenby to be in perky form after evening stables on Saturday.

Those with a critical eye were probably expecting too much of a horse who contracted a touch of colic a week earlier. Even a Tenby in rude health has been known to turn in the odd lacklustre gallop, as he did before his seasonal reappearance at Newmarket. Work-watchers have another chance to assess him on Wednesday, when he is expected to take part in a more testing gallop which better suits his style of running.

Meanwhile, Wolf Prince, trained by Michael Dickinson in Maryland, is expected to arrive at Epsom racecourse stables this evening. He will be greeted by Dickinson's mother, Monica, the oored former jumps trainer, who will oversee Wolf Prince's preparation until Dickinson arrives on Friday.

One member of the entourage who has experienced the Derby-winning thrill is Wolf Prince's lad, Kevin Williamson, who looked after the 1988 winner, Kahyasi.

The horse's principal owners are the brothers Art and Jack Preston, the oil and gas prospectors from Texas. Dickinson said of their challenge: "I have told them we have no chance of beating Tenby, to which they replied that they have drilled plenty of dry wells before. Wolf Prince is only a grade three horse, but the owners are true sportsmen."

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: PLAY WITH ME (2.30 Ayr)
Next best: Eleuthera (2.15 Leicester)

Intrepidity wins trial

INTREPIDITY gained a convincing win in the Prix Saint-Alary at Longchamp yesterday, but is not certain to join her stablemate, Wemyss Bight, in the Oaks. She also holds engagements in the Prix du Jockey-Club (French Derby) and the Prix de Diane (French Oaks).

Intredipity maintained her unbeaten record in good style, leading a furlong out under Thierry Jarnet and holding Danclenne by a length. But owner Shaikh Mohammed's racing manager Anthony Stroud said: "A final decision will not be made by the Shaikh until nearer the time."

Ladbrokes and William Hill have taken Intrepidity out of their betting in anticipation of her running in the French Oaks on June 13. Corals leave her in their Oaks list, cutting her price from 10-1 to 6-1, behind 5-1 joint-favourites Wemyss Bight and Yawl.

☐ Bright Generation won the £103,764 Italian Oaks at San Siro, Milan, yesterday. Paul Cole's filly, ridden by Alan Munro, comfortably beat the home-trained pair Rose Violet and Zaffera.

ED BYRNE

Family fortune: Michael Hills rides Nicer, trained by his father, Barry, to win the Irish 1,000 Guineas

Nicer given Royal Ascot assignment

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent in Dublin

NICER, successful in the IAWS Irish 1,000 Guineas at the Curragh on Saturday, will attempt to enhance her reputation in the Coronation Stakes at Royal Ascot next month.

Her victory helped make up for lost time. She had been deprived of an earlier classic opportunity when her trainer, Barry Hills, withdrew her from the 1,000 Guineas at Newmarket. Explaining the decision, Hills observed that his horses were not running well at that time and that nowadays it was necessary to keep a close eye on entry fees.

Hills's patience was well rewarded, and the day made special by his son, Michael, riding Nicer. For Darryll Holland, the occasion was memorable for the wrong reason. He would have been oo board the filly but for a four-day suspension.

Hills, however, made the most of his opportunity. Biding his time early, he made the decisive move two furlongs out. He kicked Nicer into a clear lead and had enough in reserve to hold off Goodnight Kiss and Danse Royale by two lengths and a short head.

Felawnah, supplemented along with Dayflower earlier in the week, finished fourth. Dayflower took the lead shortly after halfway and was still in front until Nicer took control.

"Dayflower was going as well as anything until Nicer came along, but she did not fire when I asked her to go with the winner," her jockey, Frankie Dettori, said.

Zarani Sidi Anna, the 3-1 favourite, failed to reproduce her good work on the Newmarket gallops and could finish only seventh. Walter Swinburn, her jockey, said: "I was in trouble at halfway. You would have to question whether she is genuine."

Goodnight Kiss, on her running here, must be one of the best three-year-old maiden fillies around. Dermot Weld plans to send her for the Jersey Stakes at Royal Ascot.

Danse Royale, a half-sister to Salsabil, could tackle the Irish Oaks. Piggott reported the filly will be more effective over middle distances.

Shortly after Vincent O'Brien had given the all-clear for Fatherland to run in the Ever Ready Derby with Lester Piggott aboard, the old alliance produced a notably fast sprinter in College Chapel, who defied a bad draw to win the Greenlands Stakes. He is also bound for Royal Ascot, his objective being the Cork and Orrery Stakes.

Fatherland, who cantered at Ballydoyle on Saturday, pulled up sound and seems to have shaken off the effects of an infected hoof. He will be given a stronger piece of work tomorrow morning.

Big-race details

Going: good

9.50 IAWS IRISH 1,000 GUINEAS (3-Y-O fillies: IrE113,000: 1m)
NICER gr f Pennine Walk — Everything Nice (Mrs J Corbett) 9-0 M Hills 6-1 1
Goodnight Kiss b f Night Shift — Hyatti (S Al-Homaisi) 9-0 P Shanahan 25-1 2
Danse Royale b f Caerleon — Flame Of Tara (Miss P O'Kelly) 9-0 L Piggott 16-1 3
ALSO RAN: 3 fav Zarani Sidi Anna, 6 Allan, Aserna, 13-2 Felawnah (4th), 7 Dayflower, 18 Eurostorm, 20 Miami Sands (6th), 25 Chanzi (pu), Tarakana (5th), 50 Adolescence, 66 Sabaya, 14 ran. 2l, sh hd, 1½l, 2½l. B Hills at Lambourn. Tote: £6.90; £2.70, £4.70, £3.50. DF: £144.80. CSF: £163.33. 1min 44.20sec.

Melton Park closes gap on Brunico

Point-to-point
By Brian Beel

MELTON Park has the option of continuing in point-to-points for the last fortnight of the season or running in a hunter chase at Fakenham on Monday. After Saturday's events, the former appears most likely.

Two behind Brunico for the Daily Telegraph trophy at the start of the day, he closed the gap by gaining his tenth success of the season in the members' race at the **Melton Hunt Club**. Brunico was beaten at the **Dulverton East**.

James Tarry, who many thought came too late on Larry The Lamb in Melton Park's race, made quick amends in the oext with a convincing win on Fine Lace.

Brunico was beaten on merit by Friendly Lady. Minor mistakes two out and at the last contributed to this, but Nicky Bush and Friendly Lady found the better turn of foot from the last to win by one and a half lengths.

Alison Dare came out best in the ladies' on Scally's Daughter, beating rivals Polly Curling and Mandy Turner into the minor places. Dare and Turner, both on the 19-winner mark, share the lead for The Sporting Life trophy, one in front of Curling.

Dare went on to the **Tredegar Farmers**, but her trip was in vain as Hazeleels Delight was well beaten by Pip Nash on Spartan City before being disqualified for going the wrong side of a marker.

Saturday's results

BORDER (Corbridge): Confined: 1, Deplete (T Smalley, 6-1); 2, Geordies Bing; 3, Majestic Ring. 9 ran. Rest: 1, Cromwell Point (N Wilson, 5-2); 2, Master Mathew; 3, Patruska. 12 ran. Ladies: 1, Action Packed (Miss J Percy, 8-1); 2, Just For Kicks; 3, Marshalstonewood. 7 ran. Open: 1, Generals Boy (P Craggs, 1-3 fav); 2, Army's Mystery; 3, Dundywan. 10 ran. Open Mdn C: 1, Rex Tremenda (A Parker, 2-1); 2, Tolmin; 3, Eden Sunset. 13 ran. Open Mdn B: 1, Almost Tomorrow (S Pittendrigh, 50-1); 2, Cool Fountain; 3, Tooting Times. 11 ran. Hunt: 1, Rede Rebel (T Scott, 4-9 fav); 2, Mill Knock; 3, Raffles. 10 ran.

DULVERTON EAST (Mounsey Hill Gate): Hunt: 1, Share-Out (R Whea, 5-4); 2, Spar Lady, only 2 finished. 5 ran. Ladies: 1, Scally's Daughter (Miss A Dare, 1-2 fav); 2, Island Forest; 3, Sweet On Willie. 14 ran. Open: 1, Friendly Lady (N Bush, 2-1); 2, Brunico; 3, Ramsdell. 14 ran. Rest: 1, Bincombe Top (L Jefford, 20-1); 2, Badon Hill; 3, Ivo. 18 ran. Confined: 1, The Doormaker (Miss P Curling, 11-2); 2, Hanne O'Fronsi; 3, Celtic Sport. 9 ran. Open Mdn C: 1, Commanche Brave (B Dixon, 3-1); 2, Admirals Landing; only 2 finished. 10 ran. Open Mdn B: 1, Random Charge (R Treloggen, 7-4 fav); 2, Sullivans Choice; 3, Hollow Wonder. 9 ran.

MELTON HUNT CLUB (Garthorpe): Hunt: 1, Melton Park (N Bloom, 5-4 fav); 2, Larry The Lamb; 3, Decent Gold. 11 ran. Hunt Families: 1, Fine Lace (G Tarry, Evens fav); 2, Magical Moms; 3, Carats Major. 11 ran. Ladies: 1, Let Me Think (Miss C Thomas, 4-6 fav); 2, Van Dyke Brown; 3, Fedneyhill. 9 ran. Novices: 1, Dollamere (J Smyth-Osbourne, 9-2); 2, Leyscheck Jack; 3, Toucan Talk. 15 ran. Open: 1, Sunny Mount (J Greenall, 4-6 fav); 2, Seybright; 3, Good Waters. 8 ran. Conditional Hunt: 1, Write The Music (D Eaden, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Lord Fawsley; 3, Captain Pike. 17 ran.

TREDEGAR FARMERS (Llantarnam): Hunt: 1, Shuttlecock Star (A Price, 4-6 fav); 2, Pat Steel; 3, Rosuale. 8 ran. Rest: 1, Bethelve (O Stephens, 4-11); 2, Pendham's Pride; 3, Standaway. 15 ran. Confined: 1, Chief Ironside (D S Jones, 6-1); 2, Tourean Tycoon; 3, The Belcher. 10 ran. Ladies: 1, Spartan City (Mrs P Nash, 4-1); 2, Hazeleels Delight, only 2 finished. 5 ran. Open: 1, Jack Sound (D S Jones, 10-1); 2, Equity Player; 3, Solars Pride. 7 ran. Open Mdn (Div I): 1, Never Ever (A Price, Evens fav); 2, Pak-U-Cash; 3, Comic Performer. 9 ran. Open Mdn II: 1, Old Deer Park (Miss C Spearing, 4-1); 2, Denzil's Boy; 3, Ferret Finnegan. 9 ran.

LEICESTER

THUNDERER
2.15 Sweet Decision
2.45 Miss Brightside
3.15 Khubza
3.45 Harry's Coming
4.15 Cloudy Reef
4.45 Circle Of Friends

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.15 ISHTIYAK (nap). 2.45 Burishki.
The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.15 CLOUDY REEF.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.15 WOLVEY MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: 2-Y-O fillies: £3,260: 5f 2yd) (10 runners)

1 (7) CHARLIES DREAM (K Powell) K Burke 8-11 — S Wilworth —
2 (2) CHINA ROBIN (Mrs H Keswick) P Walwyn 8-11 — R Cochrane —
3 (8) 354 COLNE VALLEY 7 (C Sumner) R Johnston Houghton 8-11 — T Quinn 82
4 (10) ELEUTHERA (Lucayan Stud Ltd) D Loder 8-11 — L Dettori —
5 (4) HEVER GOLF ROSE (R Popely) T Naughton 8-11 — Paul Eddery —
6 (1) ISHTIYAK (H Al-Maktoum) R Armstrong 8-11 — W Carson —
7 (5) MATISSE (J Galvanoni) J Bethell 8-11 — W R Swinburn —
8 (6) MAZZA (R Gaddis) J Scargill 8-11 — J Quinn —
9 (9) 44 PRIMO STAMPARI 13 (Mrs L Vickers) R Hannon 8-11 — Pat Eddery 96
10 (3) 52 SWEET DECISION 10 (Mrs D Callard) M Williams 8-11 — J Williams (5) —

BETTING: 15-8 Primo Stampari, 5-2 Sweet Decision, 4-1 Ishtiyak, 6-1 Colne Valley, 10-1 China Robin, 14-1 Eleuthera, 16-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING MEETING

FORM FOCUS

COLNE VALLEY 4½l 4th of 16 to Desert Love in a maiden at Bath (5f, good). PRIMO STAMPARI 5l 4th of 6 to Queensford in a maiden at York (5f, good to soft).
SWEET DECISION ½l 2nd of 16 to Rotellion in a maiden at Bath (5f, firm). CHINA ROBIN (Foaled Jan 29) is by Night Shift, out of a 6f-7f winning dam ISHTIYAK (Jan 20, nott 6,000gns) is a half-sister by Green Desert, to 1m 2f winner Fawz. MATISSE (Feb 22, 26,000gns) is by Shareef Dancer out of a 6f winning juvenile.
Selection: SWEET DECISION

2.45 HICKLING SELLING HANDICAP
(Div I: £2,658: 5f 218yd) (20 runners)

1 (12) 0300-60 PARFAIT AMOUR 47 (R Whitaker) R Whitaker 4-10-0 — A Culhane 96
2 (21) 000000- EVERSET 324 (D F Gt) (Broughton Thermal Insulation) M Musson 5-9-3 — J Fred —
3 (15) 54-0-00 GLADEER 19 (Mrs T Mills) T Mills 4-9-8 — N Gwilliams (5) 86
4 (4) 1340-0- DICKENS LANE 235 (D,F,G) (Bull & Bear Racing) R Hodges 6-9-7 — S Drowne (7) 87
5 (7) 35600-3 ASTERIX 7 (V,D,F) (Clifton Hunt) J Bradley 5-9-7 — T Quinn 90
6 (15) 056-00 CAVROS 14 (Mrs E Jones) S Falling 3-9-2 — Paul Eddery 91
7 (6) 240-610 BURISHKI 15 (B,D,G,S) G Pritchard-Gordon 3-9-1 — W R Swinburn 94
8 (19) 6040-25 MISS BRIGHTSIDE 38 (A Grant) A Smith 5-8-7 — S Webster 69
9 (14) 0-60 FATHOM FIVE 55 (K Kingsley) M Williams 4-8-5 — J Williams 90
10 (16) 0000-3 PRINCESS JESSICA 25 (F Houlihan) P Butler 6-8-5 — D McCabe (7) 95
11 (3) 000-02 CLEAN GATE 18 (B) (P Cundell) P Cundell 4-8-4 — W Carson 95
12 (18) 00-0000 CRIMSON CONSORT 14 (B) (Don Enrico Incisa) E Incisa 4-8-3 — Kim Tinkler 85
13 (8) 000003- PRINCESS JESTINA 216 (D F,G) (G Yardley) G Yardley 5-8-2 — R Price —
14 (9) 05000-0 ORCHARD BAY 25 (F) (Apollo Racing) D R Tucker 4-8-2 — A Tucker 94
15 (13) 0-44050 EMERALD EARS 14 (G) (Racing Thoroughbreds Plc) P McEntee 4-8-1 — G Bardwell 96
16 (17) 20 00-03 DAILY SPORT AUGUST 14 (D,G) (M O'Toole) L Cherman 4-8-0 — J Quinn —
17 (11) 000-00 CHEREN BOY 18 (Mrs L Rucklefield) G Forsey 4-8-0 — N Adams 80
18 (5) 040 BLUE POINT 14 (N Callaghan) N Callaghan 4-8-0 — A Munro —
19 (10) 233003- BLUEBELLA 230 (P Roach) Mrs P Butler 3-7-13 — J Lowe 88
20 (2) 000-030 WEEKEND GIRL 10 (D Jones) W Brisbourne 4-7-7 — Darren Moffatt (5) —

BETTING: 5-1 Clean Gate, 6-1 Miss Brightside, 7-1 Burishki, 8-1 Dickens Lane, 10-1 Blue Point, 12-1 Bluebella, Emerald Ears, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

DICKENS LANE 4½l 4th of 6 to Dome Savage in a competitive race at Lingfield (5f, good). BURISHKI beat Lancaster 3½l in a 7-runner handicap at Hamilton (6f, soft).
MISS BRIGHTSIDE ½l 2nd of 7 to Moon Stake in a maiden at Beverley (5f, good to firm). CLEAN GATE was 2nd of 12 to Saltarow in a maiden handicap at Brighton (6f, firm), with CHEREN BOY 8l 7th.
CRIMSON CONSORT 15l 8th of 12 to Ballad Dancer in a seller at Redcar (7f, good).
EMERALD EARS 3l 4th of 11 to Lancstone Boy in a handicap at Southwell (AW, 6f, standard).
Selection: MISS BRIGHTSIDE

3.15 SILVER PHEASANT CONDITIONS STAKES
(3-Y-O fillies: £3,465: 7f 9yd) (12 runners)

1 (5) 0-115 CRIME OF THE CENTURY 21 (G,S) (C Wright) P Cole 9-2 — T Quinn 96
2 (7) 1-5 GUY'S JOY 39 (S) (T Wogan) E Hills 9-0 — Pat Eddery 81
3 (2) 6-1 KHUBZA 25 (D,G) (Shaikh Mohammed) H Cecil 9-0 — W Ryan 92
4 (11) 0-1 PRINCESS HAIFA 21 (F) (Shaikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) M Stoute 9-0 — Paul Eddery 92
5 (9) 334-100 SEHAILAH 26 (CD,F) (S Al Jaber) Mrs L Piggott 9-0 — L Piggott 83
6 (1) 12 ZAJIRA 10 (S) (H Al-Maktoum) R Armstrong 9-0 — W Carson 94
7 (10) 016-0 GUSTAVIA 11 (D,G) (Mrs P Armstrong) P Armstrong 8-12 — L Dettori 95
8 (12) 2633-50 HOLLY GOLIGHTLY 38 (F) (V Bertorelli) R Hannon 8-12 — J Reid 98
9 (6) 1- SIWAAYIB 210 (C,S) (Maktoum Al Maktoum) A Stout 8-12 — W R Swinburn 79
10 (4) 5-1 CHILLY BREEZE 55 (G) (P Goldsmith) M Prescott 8-10 — K Rutter (5) 86
11 (12) 152-56 SHAMSEEN 16 (D,F) (S Mansour) C Brittain 8-10 — R Cochrane 69
12 (8) 310- VAYAVAIG 203 (S) (Dixie Inc Ltd) J Fanshawe 8-10 — B Raymond 81

BETTING: 7-4 Shamseen, 3-1 Khubza, 5-1 Zajira, 7-1 Vayavaig, 8-1 Holly Golightly, Princess Haifa, 10-1 Sehailah, 12-1 Crime Of The Century, 16-1 Gustavia, 20-1 Guy's Joy, 33-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

CRIME OF THE CENTURY 4½l 5th of 6 to Brockton Dancer in a competitive race at Kempton last time out (8f, good). GUY'S JOY beat Much Brave 3½l in a maiden at Chester last season (6f 18yd, heavy).
KHUBZA beat Good Type 2l in an 11-runner maiden at Newmarket (7f, good).
PRINCESS HAIFA beat Balisha ¾l in a 9-runner maiden at Warwick (1m, good to firm). ZAJIRA 2l 2nd of 5 to Star Manager in a competitive race at Thirsk (1m, soft).
HOLLY GOLIGHTLY 2½l 3rd of 6 to Mystic Goddess in a listed race at Newmarket last season (7f, good to firm).
SIWAAYIB beat Quinquagenta ¾l in a 14-runner maiden at Leicester (6f, soft). CHILLY BREEZE beat Kitty's Filly 2½l in a 9-runner maiden at Newcastle (6f, good). SHAMSEEN 4l 2nd of 6 to Noble in the group II Lowther Stakes at York last season (6f, good to firm).
VAYAVAIG beat A Secret Weapon ¾l in a 13-runner at Haydock maiden (6f, good to soft).
Selection: SHAMSEEN

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 — B West (4) 66

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider, B — brought down, S — slipped up, R — refused, D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. Days: blinkers, V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield, C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner, BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard, G — good, S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.45 HICKLING SELLING HANDICAP
(Div II: £2,637: 5f 218yd) (19 runners)

1 (8) 041000 HARRY'S COMING 9 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs D Walbersel) R Hodges 9-10-0 — W Carson 93
2 (4) 000-600 LEIGH CROFTER 21 (V,BF,G) (K Leadbetter) P Murphy 4-9-13 — L Dettori 80
3 (17) 052060 RUSHANES 7 (D,G,S) (M MacCarthy) T Casey 6-9-12 — T Quinn 87
4 (5) 36-2851 THE RIGHT TIME 3 (D,F,S) (J Myers) J Parkes 8-9-6 (5ex) — D Harrison (3) 98
5 (14) 000-040 BOULBASS 14 (G) (Mrs D Roche) J Pearce 4-9-2 — M Wigham —
6 (10) 3530-20 KILDEE LAD 35 (J O'Donovan) A Jones 3-9-1 — Pat Eddery 83
7 (3) 00-4350 GREAT HALL 18 (D,G) (P Cundell) P Cundell 4-9-1 — J Williams 87
8 (7) 0-5360 MU-ARRIK 17 (B) (M Barnwell) J Wainwright 3-9-1 — G Parkin (7) 85
9 (16) 005000- LIFE'S A BREEZE 198 (P Tacon) W Musson 4-9-0 — J Reid 60
10 (2) 6-696 SALVATORE GIULIANO 19 (B) (Skyline Racing Ltd) C Smith 3-8-11 — J Lowe 88
11 (12) 004-600 SURE SHOT NORMAN 21 (V) (T Mulhern) G Jones 4-8-10 — A Munro 89
12 (19) 03-6030 LITMORE DANCER 19 (V,G) (Mrs P Woodfield) J Bradley 5-8-8 — R Cochrane 84
13 (9) 000041 BARBEZIEUX 4 (C,F,G,S) (T Riley-Smith) D Wilson 6-8-7 — D McCabe (7) 88
14 (1) 0300-60 BORDOORA 9 (D Young) J Harris 4-8-6 — J Carroll 69
15 (13) 005-000 ARRAS ROYALE 9 (Aizzas Racing One) J Long 3-8-3 — R Adams 60
16 (13) 600600 GRUBBY 10 (G) (Mrs A Mutch) K Hollinshead 4-8-0 — A Garth (5) 86
17 (16) 00-0600 ALICANTE 17 (B) (A Westaway) M Chapman 6-7-13 — J Quinn 94
18 (11) 000 TOCCATELLA 14 (B) (Network Builders Ltd) S Mellon 3-7-11 — A McGlone 69
19 (18) 0-5004 GATE OF HEAVEN 10 (J Purcell) R Spicer 3-7-10 — Darren Moffatt (3) 86

BETTING: 5-1 Barbezieux, 13-2 Harry's Coming, 7-1 Great Hall, 8-1 Leigh Crofter, Rushanes, The Right Time, 12-1 Grubby, Kildee Lad, Sure Shot Norman, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

HARRY'S COMING 5l 7th of 10 to Merryhill Maid in a handicap at Leicester (6f, good to firm), with ARRAS ROYALE 1l 8th. THE RIGHT TIME beat Another Episode a head in a 9-runner claimer at Catterick (5f, soft).
GREAT HALL 1½l 5th of 20 to Gary Charmer in a handicap at Salisbury (6f, good). MU-ARRIK 7th of 14 to Miss Aragon in a handicap at Carlisle (6f, good).
LITMORE DANCER 3½l 3rd of 9 to Stormvorbote in a claimer at Southwell (AW, 7f, standard). BARBEZIEUX beat The Noble Oak a neck in a 15-runner handicap at Goodwood (5f, good).
Selection: BARBEZIEUX

4.15 SWANNINGTON CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,601: 5f 2yd) (8 runners)

1 (7) 01330-1 TRENTESIMO 41 (D,F,S) (B Allen) J Berry 9-7 — J Carroll 89
2 (1) 005-0 SELL LAD 10 (The Co H3 Partnership) C Cyzer 8-7 — M Wigham —
3 (2) 10-06 FIVE ISLANDS 11 (D,G) (Lord Portman) P Cole 8-2 — T Quinn 94
4 (6) 400100 ASI COMMAND 7 (D,G) (R Thomas Williams) R Hodges 5-1 — T Sprake 88
5 (5) 6 ARYAN VESPER 14 (R Hatchman) S Dow 8-1 — C Rutter —
6 (4) 333310 BELLE SOIREE 33 (B,BF,G) (P Gibbons) P O'Mahony 7-12 — J Quinn 86
7 (3) 336-324 CLOUDY REEF 7 (M Johnson) R Hollinshead 7-10 — W Carson 69
8 (8) 050-0 SIR GENERIS 16 (P Bode) M McCormick 7-10 — N Adams 87

BETTING: 9-4 Cloudy Reef, 11-4 Trentesimo, 5-1 Belle Soiree, Five Islands, 6-1 Asi Command, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

TRENTESIMO beat Doctor Jo 3l in a 6-runner claimer at Warwick (6f, soft). FIVE ISLANDS 7½l last of 3 to Aragove in a handicap at Brighton (5f, firm).
ARYAN VESPER 13½l 6th of 7 to Sylvan Starlight in a maiden at Southwell (AW, 5f, standard). BELLE SOIREE beat Miss Wuthingham ¾l in a 9-runner maiden at Southwell (AW, 6f, standard). CLOUDY REEF 4¼l 4th of 12 to Hallorina in a handicap at Bath (5f, good), with AIR COMMAND (same form) 7l 7th.
Selection: CLOUDY REEF

4.45 WOLVEY MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: 2-Y-O fillies: £3,231: 5f 2yd) (6 runners)

1 (6) 24 BELLA PARKES 18 (J Helen) J Berry 8-11 — J Carroll 69
2 (5) BOLD GEM (F Wilson) B Meehan 8-11 — B Raymond —
3 (2) 0 BON TON 2 (B Brown) M Channon 8-11 — Paul Eddery 82
4 (3) 3 CIRCLE OF FRIENDS 31 (Mrs S Spencer-Phillips) R Hannon 8-11 — Pat Eddery 96
5 (1) NSX (H H Sultan Ahmad Shah) Miss Gay Kelleway 8-11 — T Quinn —
6 (4) ZANZARA (Skyline Racing Ltd) C Smith 8-11 — J Lowe —

BETTING: 4-7 Circle Of Friends, 3-1 Bella Parkes, 12-1 Bold Gem, 14-1 Bon Ton, 20-1 Nsx, 33-1 Zanzara.

FORM FOCUS

BELLA PARKES 7l last of 4 to Chamilard in a maiden at Chester (5f, good to firm). BON TON 5l 12th of 19 to Prince Sabar in a maiden at Newbury (5f, good). CIRCLE OF FRIENDS 3¾l 3rd of 12 to Rohita in a maiden at Sandown (5f, good to firm).
BOLD GEM (Mar 26) is a half-sister, by Never So Bold, to smart 1m good winner Just A Flutter. NSX (Mar 11, cost 110,000 francs) is by Rai Darvinn out of 1m 2f winning dam ZANZARA (Feb 23, 6,600gns) is a half-sister to several winners including 5f winner Egg.
Selection: CIRCLE OF FRIENDS (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
P Murphy	3	8	37.5	L Piggott	7	31	22.6
H Cecil	21	89	23.6	W R Swinburn	22	123	17.9
M Stoute	20	85	23.5	W Carson	26	149	17.4
B Hanbury	6	38	15.8	Pat Eddery	17	106	16
P Walwyn	7	45	15.6	Paul Eddery	18	116	15.5
M Channon	4	27	14.8	L Dettori	19	125	15.2

Carden 'poorly' after fall

AMATEUR rider John Carden was taken to hospital after a crashing fall at Southwell on Saturday evening.

Carden suffered head injuries when King Of Shadows fell in the Gunthorpe Handicap Hurdle. He was taken to the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, where his condition was yesterday said to be "poorly".

The Macclesfield-based permit holder, 57, a solicitor by profession, is a veteran of five Grand Nationals.

AYR

THUNDERER
2.30 Play With Me. 3.00 Zind. 3.30 TOLEDO QUEEN (nap). 4.00 Shadow Jury. 4.30 Distinctive Air. 5.00 Sobering Thoughts.
Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.30 Karinska.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS
DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.30 CROSSHILL RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O fillies: £2,792: 1m 2f) (5 runners)

1 40-5 APACHE SQUAW 32 C Thornton 8-11 — N Connorton 3
2 0-23 MISSA BREVIS 18 J Watts 8-11 — G Duffield 1
3 64-5 PLAY WITH ME 25 J Dunlop 8-11 — G Carter 2
4 006 SAKURA QUEEN 10 S Woods 8-11 — W Woods 5
5 3-30 SUNRISE MORNING 41 P Chapple-Hyam 8-11 — D Holland 4

11-8 Play With Me, 9-4 Missa Brevis, 5-1 Apache Squaw, 11-2 others.

3.00 CARRIGYAN MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,265: 1m 5f 13yd) (12)

1 2 BOWARD 23 C Brooks 7-9-10 — W Newnes 11
2 8 FAIRWAYS ON TARGET 23 Mrs M Reveley 7-9-10 — Dean McKeown 1
3 02 MR WOODCOCK 21 Mrs M Reveley 8-9-10 — K Darley 4
4 QUARTZ HILL 33J R Lamb 4-8-10 — J Fanning 3
5 THE LAUGHING LORD 37J P Chesstrough 7-8-10 — M Birch 6
0 0- SOOTHIN 331 C W C Elsey 5-9-5 — R Hills 8
7 20 MURPHYS WAY 23 J Eyre 4-9-5 — G Duffield 2
8 RAGLAN LADY 24J A Bailey 6-8-5 — Angela Gallimore (7) 6
9 06 HILL OF DREAMS 19 I Balding 3-8-5 — G Carter 12
10 60 MAJOR JACK 2 P Monteith 3-8-5 — J Fortune 5
11 03 HIGH ASSET 21 C Booth 3-8-5 — N Connorton 7
12 3-35 ZIND 10 P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-5 — D Holland 10

1-4 Zind, 7-1 Hill Of Dreams, 10-1 Mr Woodcock, 16-1 Bolara, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Chapple-Hyam, 12 winners from 27 runners, 44.4%; J Dunlop, 7 from 19, 36.8%; I Balding, 4 from 16, 25%; Mrs M Reveley, 7 from 37, 18.9%; T Barron, 7 from 37, 18.9%; J Berry, 29 from 188, 15.4%.
JOCKEYS: D Holland, 8 winners from 28 rides, 28.6%; C Carter, 11 from 56, 19.6%; R Hills, 6 from 44, 18.2%; M Birch, 17 from 102, 16.7%; K Darley, 28 from 168, 16.6%; J Fortune, 7 from 48, 14.6%.

3.30 KILMACOLM HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,707: 1m) (8)

1 41-0 SO BO 23 (F,S) T Barron 9-7 — W Newnes 4
2 01-0 TOLEDO QUEEN 11 (C,S) P Chapple-Hyam 9-3 — D Holland 2
3 00-1 JADIRAH 11 (D,F) J Dunlop 8-11 — R Hills 5
4 2544 GREEN'S FAIR 24 (D,S) M Bell 8-9 — M Fenton (5) 3
5 003- CUTHBRIGHT KID 220 (B) S Norton 8-5 — K Darley 8
6 0-60 DRUMDONNA 14 (B,C,S) J Berry 7-12 — G Carter 6
7 0-32 RUNFIG 16 Miss L Perratt 7-7 — J Fanning 7
8 40-2 KARINSKA 7 M Prescott 7-7 — N Carlisle 1

9-4 Jadirah, 3-1 Green's Fair, 7-2 Toledo Queen, 4-1 Karinska, 12-1 others.

4.00 TORRANYARD LIMITED STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,770: 5f) (4)

1 4132 SHADOW JURY 3 (CD,BF,F,G,S) D Chapman 9-0 — K Darley 3
2 6-00 TOM PIPER 3 (D,D,BF,G) J Berry 9-0 — G Carter 4
3 -240 GO FIGHTLINE 14 (V,D,S) M Bell 8-9 — M Fenton (5) 1
4 -360 SELVOLE 19 (D,F) Miss L Perratt 8-9 — Claire Balding (7) 2

4-7 Shadow Jury, 3-1 Go Fightline, 5-1 Tom Piper, 14-1 Selvole.

4.30 FENWICK MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,932: 6f) (11)

1 CURIE CRUSADER J Berry 9-0 — G Carter 1
2 24 DISTINCTIVE AIR 26 E Weymes 9-0 — W Newnes 10
3 FEARLESS WONDER Mrs M Reveley 9-0 — M Birch 8
4 53 KARSEAM 14 J Wainwright 9-0 — N Connorton 11
5 MISTER PISTE Miss L Perratt 9-0 — J Fanning 6
6 PARISIAN LOVER T Barron 9-0 — K Darley 7
7 0 RIVA'S BOOK 23 J Bethell 8-0 — R Hills 4
0 SNAKE PUSSKEEN A Bailey 9-0 — A Mackay 9
9 TYPOGRAPHER C Thornton 9-0 — Dean McKeown 5
10 5 DIVIDED 10 J Watts 8-8 — G Duffield 3
11 0 STARICA 18 C W C Elsey 8-8 — Dale Gibson 2

15-8 Distinctive Air, 4-1 Curie Crusader, 5-1 Karsaam, 7-1 Divided, 8-1 others.

5.00 BALLANTRAE HANDICAP (£2,818: 6f) (6)

1 -103 LANGUEDOC 9 (D,G,S) M Ware 6-10-0 — L Charnock 2
2 0-03 AYR RAIDER 18 (V,D,F,G) Miss L Perratt 6-9-12 — J Fanning 5
3 1042 MURRAY'S MAZDA 8 (D,F,G) J Berry 4-9-12 — P Roberts (7) 6
4 5244 SLADES HILL 21 (D,BF,F,G) T Barron 6-9-9 — K Darley 1
5 46-0 PRINCIPAL PLAYER 7 P Monteith 3-8-13 — J Fortune 3
6 -512 SOBERING THOUGHTS 9 (D,G) J Eyre 7-8-11 — G Duffield 4

5-2 Sobering Thoughts, 11-4 Slades Hill, 4-1 Ayr Raider, Languedoc, 7-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ayr: 3

Melton Park closes gap on Brunico

POINT-TO-POINT
BY BRIAN BELL

Remorseless Courier favourite for third title

The French Open men's event may prove predictable, Stuart Jones, tennis correspondent, reports

THE knife wielded on Monica Seles in Hamburg almost a month ago has opened out the women's field in the French Open tournament, which starts in the resplendent Roland Garros in Paris today.

Had Seles been here, rather than recuperating from her injury in the United States, she would have been as overwhelming a favourite to retain her title as Jim Courier is to successfully defend his. For once, the men's tournament promises to be the more predictable.

Although the computer has rated Pete Sampras as the top seed, *base logic presents* a wholly more convincing case for his fellow American. Courier, on recent form, is considered to be virtually unbeatable on any surface other than grass.

Sampras has never gone beyond the quarter-finals here *and he* may *find it difficult to* reach the second round let alone the last four. His opening match is against Andrei Cherkasov, the Russian, who is one of the most dangerous of the unseeded players.

With the absence of Andre Agassi, who insisted over the *weekend that he* would defend the title at Wimbledon despite still suffering from tendinitis in the right wrist, John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors, the field has lost much of its charisma. Not that it will concern Courier a jot.

He concedes he is not "the *prettiest of players" and his* method, based principally on raw power, is none too appealing to his opponents, either. He continues to dismiss them with an ease that borders on the contemptuous.

Last year, during his relentless pursuit of a second *successive win here,* he dropped only one set. Even that, against Agassi in the semi-finals, was tinged with misfortune.

It was raining at the time and Courier's mind was already in the changing room, where he thought his body should also be.

Petr Korda, his exasperated opponent in the final, deliberately *employed* a variety of tactics. None worked but Korda said: "I had to do something different because he was playing like a machine."

The robotic qualities of Courier were seen again during his recent victory in Rome, when he returned to red clay for the first time in ten months.

Courier's progress should be characteristically remorseless, *at least until* his scheduled matches against the equally forceful Thomas Muster and, especially, against either the scampering Michael Chang or the contrastingly elegant Michael Stich.

Nobody, however, is expected to prevent him from *extending his sequence of titles* to three.

Seles would surely have stretched her run to four but for the incident in Germany. Her assailant admitted to being a supporter of Steffi Graf but, although she has taken the place of her rival as *the top seed, she is not* necessarily regarded as the potential champion.

The list of challengers is led by Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, the Spaniard who has already beaten Graf twice here. Other less likely candidates include Conchita Martinez, who *confirmed the increasing threat* she poses by winning in Rome, and Gabriela Sabatini.

Graf says that her game is sufficiently sound but agrees that her concentration wavers. *The stabbing of Seles, and the supposed motive for the attack,* has not helped her to *focus clearly on the fortnight* that lies ahead.

In the streets of Roland Garros, which stands like a leafy village on the outskirts of the capital, an occasional whiff of tension pervades the air of relaxation.

It is carried by the security *guards, who could not look* more obtrusive if they tried. Attired in dark and sombre suits, they constantly flank the competitors and, yesterday, they spirited them through the crowds milling gently in the sunshine.

Although the effect *is* to *draw attention to those who would rather be anonymous,* the players are relieved to be heavily escorted to and from the courts.

Once Courier *starts,* there may be one or two victims who *might require the attentions of* the men in white coats as well.

Graf: sound form

MARK WILSON

Point of no return: Ferguson is felled for the second and final time, early in the second round of his world championship bout with Bowe

Perfect combination floors Bowe's critics

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN WASHINGTON

RIDDICK Bowe overshadowed the recent victory of Lennox Lewis over Tony Tucker with a devastating *performance against Jessie* Ferguson here at the RFK Stadium on Saturday.

Bowe whetted the public's appetite for a showdown between the two men, but it is unlikely to come much before next *spring. In boxing,* financial considerations usually *come before sporting requirements.* They will meet only after their promoters have exhausted all their money-making strokes, and they have quite a few still in hand.

Bowe, despite Ferguson's lowly position among the world's heavyweights, applied *a masterful touch* to stifle criticism of the bout. He crushed the challenge with such authority that he left little room for any argument about whose performance was better, his or Lewis's.

While comparisons might seem invidious, because, apart from age — Ferguson is 34, Tucker 36 — there are no similar records in the challenges, it was possible to compare the quality of their *finishes. Lewis's was an untidy points win,* Bowe's a clinical knockout in the second round. Lewis floored Tucker twice, but fumbled the finish; Bowe made no mistake with Ferguson.

The World Boxing Association (WBA) and International Boxing Federation (IBF) champion dropped Ferguson, *who was expected to go at* least six or seven rounds, with a short left hook in the first round. Ferguson rolled over twice in an effort to get up. He made it at eight, but was still unsteady when the bell saved him.

As they came out for the *second round. Bowe* unleashed a combination of eight punches, ending with a perfect overhand right, and Ferguson went down again without any hope of beating the count.

Even those who had pointed out the disparity in ability between the champion and the challenger had to admit that the finish was beyond criticism.

Those who might say that Lewis's performance was marred by an injured hand should remember that Bowe, too, had an injury. He had bruised his ribs a couple of days before the bout, and the doctors had asked him to postpone it. Bowe's manager, Rock Newman, said Bowe's performance was *"a manifestation of* $4\frac{1}{2}$ years of tutelage by the greatest trainer in the world, Eddie Futch". Newman was right.

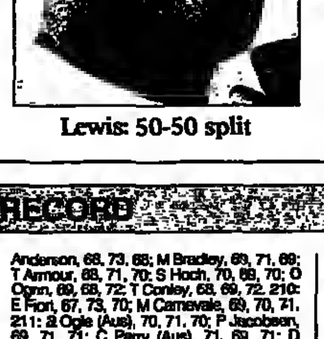
If, from the boxing point of view, Lewis has fallen behind Bowe, from the financial aspect, Lewis looks like being better off. He has a lucrative match ahead of him if *Tommy Morrison beats* George Foreman in June, and also a bout with Frank Bruno.

Lewis has agreed to defend against Morrison on October 15. If Morrison does not win, Lewis's opponent is most likely to be Bruno in September. Lewis has had a hand *operation, but is expected to* be ready in three months.

Because Morrison is a white heavyweight, the promoters expect the bout to be a huge affair, generating around $35 million. As Bowe, too, wants to cash in against Morrison, Lewis has agreed to split the money 50-50, believing that Bowe will never give up the champion's right to 75 per cent of the purse. "We've shaken hands on it," Dan Duva, Lewis's American promoter, said. "We will *sign next month* if Morrison wins. Duva added that, if Morrison did not come through, Lewis's next opponent would be Bruno.

Foreman has been ruled out as an opponent if he wins, because he has signed to appear in a sit-com in *November. But there are some,* including his brother, Roy, who think that the 46-year-old preacher puncher might be induced to squeeze in a challenge as the first instalment of the series will have been made by November.

Bowe, in the meantime, has been boxed in by his commitments. He has signed to meet Evander Holyfield, the former world champion, in November. He has also to face a mandatory *challenge* from Michael Moorer that month. If Bowe does not meet Moorer, who is the WBA No 1, he will be stripped. However, Duva, who manages Moorer, said he would agree to let Bowe take on Holyfield if he signs to meet Moorer *next.*



Lewis: 50-50 split

Both bouts are extremely dangerous for Bowe. If Bowe comes through safely, he will almost certainly be seen as the true champion, Lewis having gone for the big money in easy bouts.

Neither Bowe nor Lewis can afford to delay too long over the unification bout. *They will not only run out of* credible opponents in a division sadly lacking in talent, but will also find a Cuban heavyweight, Jorge Luis Gonzales, creeping up on them in the rankings. Gonzales, 6ft 7in, is unbeaten and has won 14 of his 15 contests *inside the distance. As an* amateur, he beat the great Teofilo Stevenson, and Bowe and Lewis, flooring Bowe three times in one round.

On the undercard, Roy Jones used lightning-fast, powerful punches to claim the vacant IBF world middleweight title with a unanimous points decision over his fellow American, Bernard Hopkins. Jones, who, by most accounts, was robbed of an *Olympic gold medal in 1988,* left no doubt that he was the better boxer, landing thudding hooks to the body early on and then hooks and right leads to the head.

Jones, 24, appeared to tire late in the bout, but Hopkins, 27, was unable to hurt him *and seemed* always wary of his opponent's dangerous counter-punches.

Speed of thought carries Nerurkar to victory

FROM DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT
IN HAMBURG

TO the Japanese, the marathon *is* chess on legs, a combination of studious thought and ruthless deed, and since Richard Nerurkar would be the choice of the British athletics team for any competitive intelligence test, his debut at the distance yesterday was eagerly awaited. He *disappointed* no one, winning the Hamburg Marathon with a run as impressive as Eamonn Martin's in London last month.

"The longer the event, the more you use your head and Richard is very good at using his head," Bruce Tulloh, Nerurkar's coach, said; as Nerurkar's degrees from Oxford and Harvard show. Yesterday he gained first-class honours in the marathon, with victory in a satisfying time of 2hr 10min 57sec.

Nerurkar won with a second half-marathon quicker than his first and at one point was 55 seconds off the pace. For 17 miles, the former Marlborough public schoolmaster could not see the front-runners but surged through to take the lead just before 24 miles and finish 41 seconds ahead of Thomas Naali, of Tanzania.

The race plan had ruled out any gamble on trying to become the first Briton for four years to beat 2:10. He was looking for "a positive experience", to confirm the view of his coach that he would be better at the marathon than the 10,000 metres. Nerurkar was fifth in the last world championships at 10,000 metres but unlike Martin, the Commonwealth champion, is veering towards the *marathon.*

He will make himself available for Britain's defence of the World Cup, in San Sebastian on October 31, after which he will probably concentrate on trying to become the first British winner of an international championship *marathon since* Ian Thompson's Commonwealth and European wins in 1974. In 1994 there is a choice of Commonwealth Games or European championships. "Winning here does push me closer towards a championship marathon in 1994," Nerurkar, a 29-year-old Bingley Harrier, said.

The German hosts were disappointed that their best man could finish only tenth, *but in Nerurkar they had the* consolation of a winner who once lived in Germany.

□ Steve Cram, the world mile record-holder, limped home in twelfth place in the 5km road race at the Bupa Festival of International Running in Aberdeen on Saturday after *suffering a recurrence of a calf* injury. Yvonne Murray won the women's race, beating her fellow Scot, Liz McColgan.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

ABERDEEN: Bupa International Festival of Running: Men: Mile: 1, C Robb (GB), 4min 04sec; 2, J Mayock (GB), 4:06; 3, R Denmark (GB), 4:07; 4, S Fairbrother (GB), 4:08; 5, M Barnes (GB), 4:09; 6, R Whalley (GB), 4:10. 5,000m: 1, K Skah (Mor), 13min 38sec; 2, P Evans (GB), 13:58; 3, P Dugdale (GB), 14:02; 4, H Makambo (Ken), 14:04; 5, M Jones (GB), 14:07; 6, J Nuttall (GB), 14:11. Also: 12, S Cram (GB), 14:37. Women: 5,000m: 1, Y Murray (GB), 15min 20sec; 2, L McColgan (GB), 15.31; 3, C McKiernan (Ire), 15.57; 4, J O'Moro (Ken), 16.02; 5, K McCandless (US), 16.14; 6, V McPherson (GB), 16.21.

NEW YORK GAMES GRAND PRIX: Men: 100m: 1, J Drummond (US), 10 16sec; 2, M Marsh (US), 10.20; 3, C Lewis (US), 10.20. 200m: 1, R da Silva (Br), 20 43; 2, F Heard (US), 20 49; 3, L Burrell (US), 20.86. 400m: 1, O Watts (US), 45 02; 2, A Pettigrew (US), 45.15; 3, A Valmon (US), 45.17. British: 8, R Black, 45.86. 800m: 1, R Abdenouz (Alg), 1min 47.34sec; 2, J Gray (US), 1:47.97; 3, G Kersh (US), 1.48 00. Mile: 1, A Bile (Som), 3:58.62; 2, O Strang (GB), 3:59.10; 3, B Zorko (Cro), 3:59.45. 5,000m: 1, P Henneck (Zim), 13.29.52; 2, A Belaout (Alg), 13.25.60; 3, T Osano (Ken), 13:30 40. 110m hurdles: 1, M Creer (US), 13.31sec; 2, G Foster (US), 13.50; 3, C Hawkins (US), 13 51. 400m hurdles: 1, K Young (US), 48.71; 2, W Graham (Jam), 49.14; 3, N Wallenlind (Swe), 49.49. Long jump: 1, M Conley (US), 7.98m. Pole vault: 1, O Petruschinsky (Russ), 5.77. Women: 100m: 1, M Finn (US), 11.28sec. 200m: Finn, 11.28. 400m: 1, S Richards (Jam), 51.35. *800m:* 1, M *Mutola (Moz),* 1:56.56; 2, T Paulino (Moz), 1:56.62; 3, J Clark (US), 1:58.17. *British:* 4, O Modahl, 1:59.17. 400m hurdles: 1, S Farmer-Patrick (US), 54.69sec; 2, K Batten (US), 55.20; 3, H Meissner (Ger), 56.05. British: 4, G Retchakan, 56.18. High-jump: 1, T Walker (US), *1.94m. Shot: 1, V Feduischin (Ukr),* 20.18.

SEFTON: Liverpool women's 10km road race: 1, S Rigg (Warrington), 34min 14sec; 2, M Donohoe (Conifle, Dublin), 34:43; 3, A Fletcher (Cambridge), 35:25. Team: 1, Rowheath (Birmingham), 40pts; 2, Bolton, 66; 3, *Liverpool Harriers, 105.*

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Friday: Florida Marlins 5, Chicago Cubs 3; Montreal Expos 5, Philadelphia Phillies 2; Atlanta Braves 4, New York Mets 2; St Louis Cardinals 10, Pittsburgh Pirates 8 (11 innings); Los Angeles Dodgers 8, Colorado Rockies 0; San Francisco Giants 3, Cincinnati Reds 0; San Diego Padres 3, Houston Astros 2 (10 innings). Saturday: New York Mets 6, Atlanta Braves 1; Cincinnati Reds 6, San Francisco Giants 2; Chicago 2, Florida Marlins 1; Montreal Expos 6, Philadelphia Phillies 5; Pittsburgh Pirates 4, St Louis Cardinals 2; Los Angeles Dodgers 4, Colorado Rockies 3; San Diego Padres 9, Houston Astros 4

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Friday: Cleveland Indians 10, Detroit Tigers 5; Milwaukee Brewers 9, Baltimore Orioles 3; Boston Red Sox 7, New York Yankees 2; Toronto Blue Jays 11, Minnesota Twins 2; Oakland A's 12, Chicago White Sox 11; Kansas City Royals 2, Seattle Mariners 1; Texas Rangers 6, California Angels 4 (10 innings). Saturday: New York Yankees 7, Boston Red Sox 3; Oakland A's 6, Chicago White Sox 4; Texas Rangers 4, California Angels 2; Detroit Tigers 5, Cleveland Indians 1; Toronto Blue Jays 7, Minnesota Twins 0; Kansas City Royals 4, Seattle Mariners 1; Baltimore Orioles 5, Milwaukee Brewers 4 (14 innings).

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Second-round play-off: Western Conference: Semi-finals: Seattle SuperSonics 103, Houston Rockets 100 (OT) (Seattle win series 4-3 and meet Phoenix Suns).

BOXING

WASHINGTON: WBA *heavyweight* championship: Riddick Bowe (US, holder) bt Jesse Ferguson (US), rsc 2nd rnd. IBF middleweight championship: Roy Jones Jr (US) bt Bernard Hopkins (US), pts.

CYCLING

PORTOFERRAIO: Giro d'Italia: First stage (85km). First section: 1, M Argentin (It), 2hr 02min 48sec, 2, M Saligari (It), at 34sec; 3, V Pulnikov (Russ); 4, M Ghirotto (It); 5, S Leali (It); 6, Z Jaskula (Pol); 7, O Cassani (It); 8, A Baffi, all same time. Also: 44, S Roche (Ire), same time. Second section (9km time-trial): 1, M Fondriest (It), 10min 38sec, 2, M Indurain (Sp), at 2sec; 3, E Seigneur (Fr), 5; 4, G Bugno (It), 8; 5, Argentin, 10; 6, C Chiappucci (It), 11; 7, F Moreau (Fr), 11; 8, L Gelli (It), 14.

AIX-LES-BAINS: Classique des Alpes (202km): 1, E Bouwmans (Holl), 5hr 55min 25sec; 2, T Claveyrolat (Fr), 49sec behind; 3, J-C Robin (Fr), 3min 03sec; 4, M Arroyo (Mex), 5:07; 5, L Dufaux (Switz), 8:49; 6, L Roosen (Bel), same time. British: 8, R Millar, 7:09.

MANCHESTER WHEELERS GRAND PRIX (110 Miles) 1, S Smith (Banana), 4hr 24min 27sec; 2, C Boardman (N Wirral-Kodak), same time; 3, W Randle (Neilson-Tivoli), at 22sec.

FENCING

HENDON POLICE COLLEGE: British men's open epee championship: 1, S Paul (Salle Paul); 2, R Gore (LTFC); equal 3, G *Liston (RAF) and H West (LTFC); 5, N* Beadsworth (Reading); 6, S Aspinall (Poly); 7, M Kingston (Llantwit Major); 8, D McKiernan (Norfolk).

FOOTBALL

Autoglass Trophy
Final

PORT VALE	(2) 2	STOCKPORT	(0) 1
Kerr 14 Slaven 37		Francis 66	
35,885			

WORLD CUP: European qualifying group four: Brussels: Belgium 3, Faeroe Islands 0.

Belgium	6	7	0	1	15	3	14
Romania	8	4	1	1	19	5	9
Wales	6	3	1	2	11	6	7
Czechoslovakia	5	1	6	1	8	5	5
Cyprus	6	2	1	5	8	13	5
Faeroe Islands	7	0	0.	7	1	28	0

European qualifying group five: Moscow: Russia 1, Greece 1 (Greece qualify for finals).

Asian zone: First round, group A: Irbid, Jordan: Jordan 1, Yemen 1; China 8, Pakistan 0.

DUTCH LEAGUE: Feyenoord Rotterdam 3, Willem II Tilburg 0; Cambuur Leeuwarden 1, FC Utrecht 2; Vitesse Arnhem 1, PSV Eindhoven 0; FC Volendam 3, Sparta Rotterdam 3; Roda JC Kerkrade 4, Go Ahead Eagles Deventer 0; RKC Waalwijk 0, SVV/Dordrecht '90 3; FC Den Bosch 2, FC Twente 0; Ajax Amsterdam 4, FC Groningen 0. Leading positions: 1, PSV Eindhoven, pl 33, pts 50; 2, Feyenoord Rotterdam, 32, 49; 3, Ajax Amsterdam, 32, 45.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Auxerre 5, Nîmes 2; Caen 2, Sochaux 0; Lille 0, St Etienne 0; Lyons 3, Lens 1; Metz 1, Monaco 0; Montpellier 1, Strasbourg 1; Paris Saint-Germain 1, Nantes 0; Toulon 1, Le Havre 2; Toulouse 2, Bordeaux 0. Leading positions (after 38 matches): 1, Marseilles, 53pts; 2, Paris Saint-Germain, 49; 3, Monaco, 47.

GERMAN LEAGUE: Bayer Leverkusen 3, Wattenscheid 1; VfB Stuttgart 3, Borussia Moenchengladbach 2; Nuremberg 1, Borussia Dortmund 2; Bayer Uerdingen 2, Eintracht Frankfurt 5; Bochum 0, Cologne 0.

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Play-offs: Shelbourne 2, Cork City 3 (Cork win title).

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Ancona 5, Pescara 3; Brescia 2, Lazio 0; Fiorentina 2, Udinese 2; Genoa 1, Parma 1; Internazionale 1, Foggia 1; Juventus 1, Sampdoria 1; Napoli 1, Torino 1; Roma 2, Atalanta 2. Leading positions (after 32 matches): 1, AC Milan, 48pts; 2, Internazionale, 44; 3, Parma, 38.

JAPANESE LEAGUE: Yokohama Marinos 1, Nagoya Grampus Eight 1 (Grampus Eight won penalty shoot-out 4-3); Yokohama Flugels 3, Urawa Reds 1; Hiroshima San Frecce 1, Kawasaki Verdy 2; Osaka Gamba 0, Ichihara JEF United 3; Shimizu S-Pulse 2, Kashima Antlers 1.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Valencia 3, Athletic Bilbao 1.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Connah's Quay 2, Haverfordwest 0. League Cup: Final: Aberystwyth: Afan Lido 1, Caersws 1 (aet: Afan Lido won 4-3 on pens).

GOLF

POTOMAC, Maryland: Kemper Open: Third-round leaders (US unless stated): 204: T *Kite,* 70, 65, 69. 205: G Waite (NZ), 66, 67, 72. 208: J Delsing, 69, 71, 68; J Inman, 71, 68, 69; L Janzen, 71, 67, 70; S Lamontagne, 69, 68, 71. 209: J C Anderson, 68, 73, 68; M Bradley, 69, 71, 69; T Armour, 68, 71, 70; S Hoch, 70, 69, 70; O Ogrin, 69, 68, 72; T Conley, 68, 69, 72. 210: E Fiori, 67, 73, 70; M Carnevale, 69, 70, 71. 211: 8 Ogle (Aus), 70, 71, 70; P Jacobsen, 69, 71, 71; C Parry (Aus), 71, 69, 71; D Toms, 67, 72, 72; W Mayfair, 70, 69, 72; J Hallet, 69, 69, 73; K Gibson, 67, 70, 74

HERSHEY, Pennsylvania: Women's tour*nament: Second-round leaders* (US unless stated): 139: S Burton, 68, 71. 141: J Larsen, 69, 72. 142: L Davies (GB), 76, 66; E King, 70, 72. 143: O Andrews, 72, 71; P Sinn (Kor), 71, 72; V Skinner, 70, 73; T Barrett, 69, 74. 144: C Figg-Currier, 73, 71. Other European: 148: M Figueras Dotti (Sp), 73, 73. 149: C Pierce (GB), 73, 76. 150: P Wright (GB), 76, 74; T Johnson (GB), 74, 76.

AJISU, Japan: Men's tournament: Leading final scores (Japan unless stated): 264: S Maruyama, 63, 72, 63, 66. 268: T Hamilton (US), 66, 68, 66, 68. 270: T Watanabe, 66, 68, 68, 65; T Nakamura, 66, 69, 67, 68. 271: H Makino, 70, 69, 65, 67.

ST PIERRE, Chepstow: Gary Player Seniors Classic: Leading final scores: 213: N Coles (Eng), 76, 66, 71; 215: G Will (Scot), 73, 72, 70. 216: T Horton (Eng), 72, 68, 76. 217: 8 Huggett (Wales), 72, 73, 72; J Carr (US), 71, 71, *75.* 218: O Jiminez (US), 76, 71, 71. 219: O Butler (Eng), 70, 72, 77. 220: A Skerritt (Ire), 70, 72, 78; H Muscroft (Eng), 78, 71, 71.

LLANDUDNO: Welsh open amateur stroke-play championship: Final scores: 280: M Macara (Llandudno Maesdu), 71, 70, 69, 70. 283: C Nowicki (Wilmslow), 71, 70, 70, 72; J Gresty (Llandudno Maesdu), 69, 68, 73, 73. 285: O Rojahn (Nor), 72, 68, 73, 72; J Edfors (Swe), 74, 69, 70, 72. 287: P Page (Dartford), 74, 68, 74, 71. 289: C Davies (Rhuddlan), 75, 72, 68, 74; M Ellis (Wrexham), 70, 70, 71, 78. 290: J Nelson (SA), 76, 72, 72, 70; S Wilkinson (St Melyd), 74, 70, 72, 74.

SCOTTISH WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP: Prestwick St Nicholas: Final: C Lambert (N Berwick) bt M McKay (Turnberry), 5 and 4.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Stanley Cup: Play-offs: Wales Conference finals: New York Islanders 4, Montreal Canadiens 1 (Canadiens lead best-of-seven series 3-1). Campbell Conference finals: Los Angeles Kings 4, Toronto Maple Leafs 2 (Kings lead 2-1)

MOTOR RACING

SUZUKA, Japan: All-Japan Formula 3000 Championship: Fourth leg (11-race se*ries): 1, E Irvine (GB, Lola T92-50), 1hr* 04min 22.711sec; 2, K Hoshino (Japan, Lola T92-50); 3, T Danielson (Swe, Lola T92-50), 1:04:27.525, 4, A Scott (GB, Lola T92-50), 1:04:27.976.

RUGBY LEAGUE

WINFIELD CUP: Canberra 48, Gold Coast 4; North Sydney 40, Brisbane 20; Eastern Suburbs 7, Balmain 18; Illawarra Steelers 5, St George 9.

RUGBY UNION

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Bulawayo: Zimbabwe 14, Wales 35. Buenos Aires: Argentina 45, Japan 20.

SUPER 10 FINAL: Johannesburg: Transvaal 20, Auckland 17.

CURRIE CUP: Natal 51, Eastern Province 19; Western Province 15, Orange Free State 12.

RIFLE SHOOTING

BISLEY: Rifle Team Matches: Eights (300, *600, 900 and 1,000yds).* 1, *RAF TRC A,* 1,850pts (J White 190.19); 2, Army TRC, 1,830 (C Cheshire 198.25); 3, RAF B, 1,790 (J Franks 191.18). Sevens (800, 900 and 1,000yds): 1, Middlesex, 954.71 (M Newman 140.12); 2, London and Middlesex Ladies, 940.68 (V Measures 142.14). Fours *match rifle (1,000 and* 1,100yds): 1, North London RC Blue, 540.33 (M Fissey 141.8); 2, NLRC Green 533.38 (C Law 142.11); 3, Wales 529.34 (L Brister 133.8); 4 Oxford Univ 523.26 (P Hickman 134.8); 5 Ireland 509 16 (D Calvert 139).

BISLEY: Schools meetings: Surrey: *Eights:* 1, *Bradfield, 502 32;* 2, Wellington, 490.25; 3, Epsom, 482.23. Reserve Pairs: Eton, 122.9. Under-16 pairs: Bradfield, 123 4. Individual: P Patel (Epsom), 47.8. Veterans: Old Guildfordians 476.50. Oxfordshire: Eights: 1, Bradfield, 502.32; 2, Berkhamstead, 483.19.

BISLEY: Astor County Championship (London Heat): 1, Stock Exchange, 602.56 (C Beecher 103.12); 2, Natwest, 596.53 (A Pettman 102.7); 3, Barclays, 594.53 (M Boyce 101.12) 300, 600, 900 and 1,000 yds (8s): 1, Manydown RC, 1,517 (C Cheshire, 196.25); 2, Twickenham, 1,480 (J Dallas, 192.21).

BISLEY: Hampshire county championship: Grand aggregate: Cheshire, 193.25. Short range aggregate: J Lewis, 100.13. Long range aggregate: Cheshire, 95.9.

SQUASH

TOKYO: JSM Supersquash 93: Semi-finals: M Martin (Aus) bt C Owens (Aus), 9-5, 5-9, 9-3, 9-2; C Jackman (Eng) bt H Wallace (Can), 9-5, 9-2, 4-9, 6-9, 9-2. Final: Martin bt Jackman, 9-3, 9-7, 9-7.

TABLE TENNIS

GOTHENBURG: World championships: Men: Singles: Quarter-finals: Z Primorac *(Cro) bt Wang Yonggang (China), 22-20,* 21-10, 19-21, 21-13; J-P Gatien (Fr) bt A Podpinka (Bel), 21-12, 28-26, 17-21, 10-21, 21-17. Semi-finals: J-M Saive (Bel) bt J-O Waldner (Swe), 21-17, 25-23, 21-16; Gatien bt Primorac, 12-21, 21-15, 17-21, 21-16, 21-11. Final: Gatien bt Saive, 21-19, 17-21, 21-14, *17-21, 21-18. Doubles: Semi-finals:* Wang Tao and Lu Lin (China) bt Yoo Nam-kyu and Kim Taek-soo (S Kor), 22-20, 26-28, 21-16, 22-20; Ma Wenge and Zhang Lei (China) bt Liu Guoliang and Lin Zhigang (China), 21-11, 21-12, 21-16. Final: Wang Tao and Lu Lin bt Ma Wenge and Zhang Lei, 18-21, 21-12, 21-13, 21-15. Women: Singles: Semi-finals: Hyun Jung-hwa (S Kor) bt O Badescu (Rom), 17-21, 21-17, 22-20, 11-21, 22-20; Chen Jing (Taiwan) bt Gao Jun (China), 21-9, 21-15, 21-14. Final: Hyun Jung-hwa bt Chen Jing, 21-16, 21-15, 21-14. Doubles: Quarter-finals: Deng Yaping and Qiao Hong (China) bt K Toth and V Elo (Hun), 21-15, 21-15, 21-3; Chai Po Wa and Chan Tan Lui (HK) bt Wi Bok Sun and An Hui Suk (N Kor), 21-18, 21-15, 21-16; Liu Wei and Qiao Yunping (China) bt Li Sun Hui and Yu Sun Bok (N Kor), 24-22, 20-22, 23-21, 16-21, 21-14; Gao Jun and Chen Zihe (China) bt Chen Jing and Xu Jing (Taiwan), 21-19, 17-21, 22-20, 21-14. Semi-finals: Deng Yaping and Qiao Hong bt Chai Po Wa and Chan Tan Lui, 21-12, 21-8, 21-14; Liu Wei and Qiao Yunping bt Gao Jun and Chen Zihe, 21-9, 21-16, 21-11. Final: Liu Wei and Qiao Yunping bt Deng Yaping and Qiao Hong, 21-19, 14-21, 21-17, 23-21. Mixed doubles: Final: Wang Tao and Liu Wei (China) bt Yoo Nam-kyo and Hyun Jung-hwa (S Kor), 22-20, 13-21, 21-9, 21-13.

TENNIS

DÜSSELDORF: World Team Cup: Blue group: United States bt Spain, 2-1 (US names first: P Sampras lost to S Bruguera, 3-6, 1-6; M Chang bt C Costa, 6-7, 6-4, 6-1; P McEnroe and R Reneberg bt Bruguera *and T Carbonell, 6-3, 6-1); Switzerland bt* Russia, 2-1 (Russian names first: A Volkov lost to J Hlasek, 4-6, 6-3, 3-6; A Chesnokov bt C Mezzadri, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4; Volkov and A Olhovskiy lost to Hlasek and Mezzadri, 3-6, 3-6. Final: United States bt Germany, 3-0 (US names first: P Sampras bt M Stich, 6-4, 6-2. M Chang bt C-U Steeb, 6-3, 7-6; P McEnroe and R Reneberg bt Stich and P Kühnen, 6-4, 6-3).

BOLOGNA: Men's tournament: Quarter-finals: C Pistolesi (It) bt C Dosedel (Cz Rep), 6-3, 6-1; J Burillo (Sp) bt S Matsuoka (Japan), 6-7, 6-3, 6-4. Semi-finals: Burillo bt Pistolesi, 6-1, 7-5; A Cherkasov (Russ) bt O Camporese (It), 7-6, 6-1. Final: Burillo bt Cherkasov, 7-6, 6-7, 6-1

STRASBOURG: Women's tournament: Second round: N Sawamatsu (Japan) bt S Farina (It), 7-5, 2-6, 6-2. Quarter-finals: J Wiesner (Austria) bt G Helgeson (US), 7-5, 6-4; J Novotna (Cz Rep) bt F Labat (Arg), 6-4, 6-4; S Testud (Fr) bt P Paradis-Mangon (Fr), 3-6, 6-3, 6-2; Sawamatsu bt M Endo (Japan), 6-2, 6-3. Semi-finals: Sawamatsu bt Testud, 6-4, 6-0; Wiesner bt Novotna, 7-6, 6-4. Final: Sawamatsu bt Wiesner, 4-6, 6-1, 6-3

LUCERNE, Switzerland: European Open women's tournament: Semi-finals: L Davenport (US) bt S Hack (Ger), 6-2, 6-7, 6-1; N Provis (Aus) bt L Ferrando (It), 6-3, 6-2. Final: Davenport bt Provis, 6-1, 4-6, 6-2.

TRIATHLON

SWINDON: National championships: Men: 1, S Smith, 1hr 58min 58sec; 2, T Stewart, 2:00:33; 3, J Maitland, 2:01:15. Women: 1, H Cawthorne, 2:18:17; 2, R Hamilton, 2:19:51; 3, A Harrison, 2:20:13.

VOLLEYBALL

WORLD LEAGUE: Group A: Germany 3, Brazil 2; Russia 6, United States 2; Japan 3, *Greece 0. Group B: Cuba 3, China 0; Italy* 3, Holland 2.

FIXTURES

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance county championship

Final day of four
11 0

CHELMSFORD: Essex v Derbyshire
SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Northamptonshire
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Durham
SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Yorkshire
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Kent
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v *Somerset*

BAIN CLARKSON TROPHY (One day): Portsmouth: Hampshire v Glamorgan; Farnsfield: Nottinghamshire v Derbyshire; Taunton: Somerset v Worcestershire; Solihull: Warwickshire v Gloucestershire.

OTHER SPORT

GOLF: Welsh women's championship (Abergele and Pensarn).

SPEEDWAY: First division: Reading v Eastbourne. Knockout *Cup:* Wolverhampton v Ipswich. Second division: Exeter v Newcastle.

POOLSCHECK

Victoria: Second division: Bentleigh 0, Springvale 3; Box Hill 5, S Caulfield 2; Chelsea 1, Waverley 1; Clarinda 5, Mooroolbark 1; Clifton Hill 0, E Brunswick 1; *Doveton 0, Sunbury 5, Nunawading 4,* Sandringham 0. Third division: Corio 0, Keilor 1; Fitzroy 2, Eltham 1; Moorabbin 1, Melbourne 1, Pascoe Vale 2, Dandenong 0; Regent 2, Essendon C 1; Seaford 1, Geelong 1; S Werribee 1, Lalor 4. Fourth division: Cranbourne 0, Brighton 1; East Altona 2, S H Polonia 0; Geelong R 1, Yarraville 1; Langwarrin 0, Malvern 2; Mornington 1, Coburg 0; Rosanna 2, Keringal 1. Fifth division: Frankston 4, Forest Hill 0; Heidelberg C 0, Berwick 1; Lalor 0, Ballarat 2; Melton 1, Brandon Park 3; Springvale C 0, Williamstown 0; Westvale 7, Yallourn 0. Sixth division: Hoppers C 4, Hampton Park 0; Keysborough 2, Glenroy 3; Lyndale 2, E Richmond 3; Monbulk 1, Brunswick 2; N Glenroy 1, Wantirna 1; N Sunshine 2, Old Scotch 1. Western Australia: First division: Athena 0, Kingsway 3; Inglewood 2, North Perth 0; Perth Ital 5, Fremantle B 0; Rockingham 0, Bayswater 3; Spearwood 7, Kelmscott 3; Stirling M 3, Bassendean 0. Second division: Armadale Park 4, Queens Park 0; Ashfield 3, S Varder 0; Belga 2, Morley 2; Dianella 3, North Lake 0, Gosnells 2, Melville 3; Swan I 5, Swan Croc 0; Wanneroo 0, Stirling 2. South Australia: First division: Blue Eagles 2, Olympians 1; Croydon 2, Adelaide 1; Modbury 1, Woodville 1; Salisbury 3, Enfield 1; W T Birkalla 2, Para Hills 0.

Queensland: Third division: Latrobe 0, South Star 1; Logan 2, Albany 5; University 0, Newmarket 1.

Fourth division: Brighton 3, Moggill 1; Pine Hills 1, Clairvaux 2.

Tasmania South: Metro 0, Howrah 1; Nelson 0, Dosa 0; P O Saints 0, South Hobart 5.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½

31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2	1½

FORECAST: Telephone claims are required for 22 and 22½ points this week and the dividend forecast is very good.

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Veteran spinner wreaks havoc at Horsham

By Ivo Tennant

THE news from Horsham was propitious. A spinner, English qualified, had taken 12 wickets in a Britannic Assurance county championship match, 11 of them in less than four hours' cricket. With Philip Tufnell out of sorts and John Emburey still recoiling from the indignities he suffered in India, here, at last, were figures to gladden Keith Fletcher. The only drawback was that the bowler in question was 44 years old.

You trifle with Eddie Hemmings at your peril. Nottinghamshire did last season when they sacked him, and they have yet to play Sussex. He, Chris Broad and Kevin Cooper, who have all changed counties, will be nothing if not motivated cricketers this season. The sun was still high behind the yard-arm when Sussex completed victory over Leicestershire by an innings and 102 runs.

Hemmings will not play for England again ... presumably. On a pitch that was hard and dry and favoured pace and spin alike, he took five for 27 and then seven for 31 as Leicestershire collapsed to be all out for 97 and 72. Here were conditions which Fletcher has been willing groundsmen to produce to attune batsmen to the likes of Indian spinners.

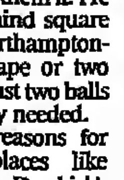
There are, thankfully, English-qualified bowlers half Hemmings's age who are performing just about as well. Ilott, if hearsay is to be believed, really does have a chance of playing Test cricket this summer. He took three more wickets on Saturday, enabling **Essex** to enforce the follow-on against **Derbyshire**. Foster, from whom he will have learnt much, had the openers out in a jiffy.

Others were to the fore. Mushtaq Ahmed has begun his career with **Somerset** almost unnoticed after the Pakistanis' much-publicised trials in the Caribbean. He would probably prefer it that way. Through taking five **Worcestershire** wickets he helped his new county gain a substantial first-innings lead at Worcester. This they built on in the final session: they are 176 ahead and justifying their billing as putative champions.

Kent's medium-pacers shared the wickets at Trent Bridge as **Nottinghamshire**, too, followed on. In spite of 93 by Cairns and 81 by Crawley, they finished two runs short of their necessary target. Two former England fast-medium bowlers, Igglesden and Ellison, took five wickets between them. Pollard and Randall reduced the deficit to 84 runs by the close.

A laughing cavalier touched by genius

Celebrating 75 not out: Compton raises a glass to mark his birthday during the Texaco Trophy match at Lord's yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland



John Woodcock writes in praise of a captivating career that was liberally sprinkled with magic

Celebrating his 75th birthday at Lord's yesterday was Denis Compton, the most engaging cricketer I ever saw. What one would have given to see him now, the laughing cavalier of 1947, going out to show Australia's bowlers the magic which he brought to the game!

No harm can come of a little nostalgia, and, although it could have been better presented, it was a nice touch to give the crowd the chance to salute Denis after the players had come off for lunch. There he was, billowing benevolently on the balcony of the president of MCC's box, as the band played *Happy Birthday To You.*

We shall have to take it on trust that he really is 75. The story goes that his mother, having just watched, live on television, a party given in honour of his 50th birthday, phoned him at the Cafe Royal, to say: "Denis you naughty boy, you're not 50, you're 49." Apocryphal, no doubt; but it doesn't have to be.

It is not that he was heedless or indifferent so much as happy-go-lucky. He had a talent that amounted to genius, an almost fatally disarming charm, the looks to break a thousand hearts and the knack of conveying that it is for their enjoyment that games are most worth playing.

When famous cricketers retire, however exceptional they may have been, one knows that if one lives long enough one should see their like again. That, basically, is because they have been part of a pattern. Although no one will ever again score runs with such abundance as Don Bradman, the reason for this, or a part of it, is that the game has changed so much since he did so. He was a phenomenon, of course; but that was because he was so much better than anyone else and possessed such powers of concentration.

In time there will be other batsmen with the wondrous strength and natural ability of Vivian Richards, the acquisitiveness of Boycott and Gavaskar, and the mastery of Barry Richards; and other bowlers with the skills of Dennis Lillee (in Richard Hadlee there has already been one, and was Spofforth not Lillee's double?); even other all-rounders as prodigiously versatile as Garfield Sobers. Although Robin Smith's batting towards the end of England's innings at Edgbaston on Friday was stupendous in its calculated fury, it didn't break the mould.

But if we could have put the clock back at Lord's yesterday and sent the Compton of his prime out to bat, you would have seen an original, a romantic at work — as well as, potentially, the ideal limited-overs cricketer. I know he would not have been given quite the scope to go dancing down the pitch as he so loved to do; but the generosity and the vitality and, above all, the inventiveness would have been there.

You would have been able to recognise him from his photographs too, for he would no more have worn a helmet than grown a beard. Perhaps the modern cricketer to come nearest to batting as Compton did is Javed Miandad.

What Denis would not have cared for, any more than Hutton or Hammond would, is the effort which is now considered necessary to obtain the level of fitness that enabled first Smith and then Allan Border and Mark Waugh to keep going as they did last Friday. The running between the wickets of the last two then, in their match-winning partnership of 168, was as notable for its stamina as for its judgment.

Cricket to Compton was less about dedication and circuit training than entertainment and self-expression. The Gooch regime, wherein commitment is all, would have been no more his natural environment than it is David Gower's. He might well have found it oppressive, as others, besides Gower, may do now, to their unsuspected disadvantage.

If England are to get the Ashes back this summer, they could do worse than take a leaf from the Compton manual by trying to unwind a little, to play their own game, to release their own, and if possible, their captain's imagination, and to let in the light.

Hussain injured as Essex again fail to impress

By Ivo Tennant

BATSMEN did not have it all their own way yesterday in the Axa Equity & Law Sunday League, whatever Paul Johnson's achievements.

At **Worcester**, for example, **Somerset** were *dismissed* for 99, Stuart Lampitt and Neal Radford taking three wickets apiece. If that would suggest a sporting wicket, no matter in this competition. And Worcestershire made heavy weather of reaching their target, taking 41.4 overs to do so.

At Chelmsford, too, there was an almighty struggle for runs. **Essex** managed only 142 for nine, of which Knight made 54 from 104 balls. They were hampered by an injury to Hussain — who was dropped for their Sunday match against Surrey last weekend for reasons that had nothing to do with his batting — who now had to retire hurt.

Derbyshire themselves were hardly able to force the ball off the square to any better effect, but they won, nonetheless, by two wickets.

Derbyshire's ninth wicket *pair, Vandrau (23 not out) and* Base (unbeaten with 14), put on an unlikely, but unbroken, stand of 31 from 25 balls to bring about victory with just four balls to spare. Hussain, who was struck on the hand by a ball from Adams, was unable to take the field when Derbyshire batted.

More heartening were runs for Richardson, **Yorkshire's** newly-acquired West Indian captain. He made his highest score for his adopted county, 81, and it was sufficient for them to beat **Hampshire** by 30 runs.

What was more, he was dropped by his former colleague, Marshall, when he had made just 25. Hampshire's acting captain did at least make a rapid 59 in an attempt to atone for this, but it was not enough.

At Horsham, there were *runs of a kind that had not* been seen the previous day. Smith struck 75 in a total of 283 for eight that Sussex reached after choosing to bat. He put on 61 in ten overs with Stephenson, who is thorough*ly enjoying his new role as an* opener, and shared a second-wicket stand of 84 with Speight, who struck six fours and a six in making 52 off 65 balls.

Leicestershire, reeling from their championship defeat inside two days on the same ground, made a disastrous start, losing half their side for 91. There was no recovery from that, although Wells and Dakin shared an unbroken stand of 61 to ensure that they did at least finish with some respectability.

Ambrose completes pleasant journey for Northants

By Michael Henderson

PENTYRCH: Northamptonshire beat Glamorgan by three wickets.

GLAMORGAN have taken Sunday cricket to more grounds, 13, than any other county. Unfortunately for the fair-sized crowd which gathered at this latest location, a pleasant club northwest of Cardiff, their team was defeated by three wickets.

It was a closer-run affair than anyone imagined when Colin Metson stumped Allan Lamb off a wide with four overs left. When Roland Lefebvre ran out Tony Penberthy off the second ball of the last over, also bowled by Vivian Richards, there was the remote prospect of a Glamorgan victory.

Curtly Ambrose denied them it. He nurdled his first ball behind square leg for a couple, and Northamptonshire, not without a scrape or two along the way, and with just two balls to spare, had the 170 they needed.

There are plenty of reasons for bringing cricket to places like Pentyrch (it rhymes with Dunkirk). In an ideal world, clubs like Glamorgan should play as many of the coloured games as possible on outgrounds. There is, of course, an important caveat: that the pitch is adequate.

These batsmen would not feel too deprived if they never saw this one again. No one made 50, which is rare in this sort of contest. On a small ground only Lefebvre cleared the ropes, and only then by an inch or two.

Not the least interesting feature of the ground is its geography. Strictly speaking, there is a "sea end", which is not to speak strictly at all, since the Bristol Channel is almost ten miles away. Perhaps the pavilion end at Lord's should now be renamed the "Albertine Wine Bar" end, after the notable Shepberd's Bush establishment.

The coloured clothing, universally denounced on aesthetic grounds, looked better under the sun, as it should. But it remains more difficult, not less, to identify cricketers, and as for Glamorgan's kit, the players are only a snorkle and pair of flippers short of an underwater diving suit.

As all Welshmen know, or should, Glamorgan have yet to win a one-day trophy. The closest they came was in 1977 when they lost a Gillette Cup final to Middlesex, which was chiefly memorable for a six hit by Mike Llewellyn on to the top tier of the Lord's Pavilion.

Already this year they are out of the Benson and Hedges Cup, despite beating Kent comprehensively in the preliminary round. To make progress in the NatWest Trophy, where they will expect to get past Oxfordshire and Durham, they will need to fiddle those all-important in-between overs successfully.

Lefebvre bowled ten restricting overs here, after making an unbeaten 36 to wag the Glamorgan tail. Throw in that late run-out, and he had a good match. So did Watkin, who took two for 28, and Dale, who tried to hold the innings together when short-term partners forsook him. Like Maynard and Richards, he went to Cook whose return of four for 22 was impressive, and ultimately telling.

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Gloucestershire v Durham

BRISTOL (third day of four): Gloucestershire, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 93 runs behind Durham

DURHAM: First Innings
G Fowler c Russell b Walsh 0
W Larkins c Wight b Smith 29
P W G Parker c Russell b Walsh 13
P Bainbridge b Alleyne 29
J A Daley b Alleyne 39
I T Botham lbw b Walsh 21
†C W Scott c Hodgson b Smith 64
A C Cummins b Davies 62
P J Berry run out 10
J Wood st Russell b Davies 17
*D A Graveney not out 11
Extras (b 5 nb 20) 25
Total (117.1 overs) 320
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-41, 3-70, 4-116, 5-137, 6-165, 7-255, 6-282, 9-301
BOWLING: Walsh 30-7-54-3, Smith 28-4-109-2, Scott 13-4-25-0, Hancock 3-0-15-0, Davies 24-1-8-2-2, Alleyne 20-3-48-2, Wight 10-2-32-0

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings
B C Broad b Cummins 23
G D Hodgson c Parker b Berry 5
R J Scott b Cummins 13
M W Alleyne c Larkins b Bainbridge 104
*A J Wright c Botham b Graveney 18
T H C Hancock c Scott b Cummins 23
R M Wight not out 2
†R C Russell not out 10
Extras (b 2, lb 9 w 2, nb 16) 29
Total (6 wkts, 75.4 overs) 227
A M Smith, M Davies and C A Walsh to bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-33, 2-33, 3-65, 4-132, 5-213, 6-215
Bonus points: Gloucestershire 5, Durham 5.
Umpires: G I Burgess and D O Oslear

Essex v Derbyshire

CHELMSFORD (third day of four): Derbyshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 163 runs to avoid an innings defeat

ESSEX: First Innings
*P J Prichard c O Gorman b Warner 33
J P Stephenson b Sladdin 43
J J B Lewis c Bowler b Vandrau 8
Salim Malik c Maher b Griffith 132
N Hussain c Maher b Malcolm 152
†M A Garnham not out 40
N A Foster c Griffith b Sladdin 37
T O Topley c Bowler b Warner 0
Extras (b 10, lb 8 nb 5) 26
Total (7 wkts dec) 471
Score at 120 overs: 461-5
M C Ilott, P M Such and J H Childs did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-55, 2-80, 3-93, 4-383, 5-397, 6-464, 7-471
BOWLING: Malcolm 19-4-63-1, Warner 20-4-91-2, Adams 12-1-68-0, Griffith 13-2-43-1, Sladdin 34-11-121-2, Vandrau 24-9-79-1

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings
*K J Barnett lbw b Foster 2
P D Bowler lbw b Foster 5
J E Morris c Garnham b Ilott 24
C J Adams c Salim b Such 54
T J G O'Gorman st Garnham b Childs 17
F A Griffith b Ilott 53
M J Vandrau c Such b Topley 21
†B J M Maher lbw b Ilott 0
A E Warner c and b Salim 3
R W Sladdin c Lewis b Salim 10
O E Malcolm not out 1
Extras (b 4, lb 7, nb 2) 13
Total (100.4 overs) 203
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-11, 3-72, 4-86, 5-123, 6-178, 7-178, 8-183, 9-195
BOWLING: Foster 13-6-16-2; Ilott 23-7-49-3; Childs 26-12-26-1; Topley 5-0-17-1; Such 17-2-51-1; Salim Malik 16.4-5-33-2.

Second Innings
K J Barnett not out 1
R W Sladdin not out 0
Extras (lb 4) 4
Total (no wkt) 5
Bonus points: Essex 8, Derbyshire 3.
Umpires: J H Hampshire and P Willey.

Nottinghamshire v Kent

TRENT BRIDGE (third day of four): Nottinghamshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 84 runs behind Kent

KENT: First Innings 334 (M V Fleming 76, M R Benson 73, R M Ellison 68, J A Afford 5-73)

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings
D W Randall c Benson b Igglesden 10
P R Pollard lbw b Igglesden 8
*R T Robinson lbw b Igglesden 0
P Johnson c Cowdrey b Headley 9
M A Crawley c Fleming b Davis 81
C L Cairns c Marsh b Ellison 93
G W Mike c Cowdrey b Davis 2
†B N French c Marsh b Ellison 1
R A Pick not out 1
M G Field-Buss c Ward b Davis 4
J A Afford lbw b Headley 0
Extras (b 6, lb 12, w 5) 23
Total (86.2 overs) 242
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-15, 3-30, 4-30, 5-220, 6-224, 7-225, 8-225, 9-241
BOWLING: Igglesden 14-4-49-3; Headley 16.2-4-32-2; Davis 28-10-71-3; Hooper 13-2-27-0; Ellison 10-4-30-2; Fleming 5-0-15-0

Second Innings
P R Pollard not out 23
D W Randall not out 40
Extras (b1, lb2, w1) 5
Total 68
Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 4, Kent 8
Umpires: V A Holder and P B Wight

Glamorgan v Northamptonshire

SWANSEA (third day of four): Northamptonshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 161 runs to beat Glamorgan

GLAMORGAN: First Innings 165 (I V A Richards 64; A L Penberthy 5-37)

Second Innings
S P James lbw b Curran 3
*H Morris c Ambrose b Ambrose 61
A Dale b Ambrose 3
I V A Richards c sub b Ambrose 4
D L Hemp b Taylor 10
R D B Croft b Ambrose 23
R P Lefebvre c Cook b Penberthy 15
†C P Metson c Bailey b Penberthy 25
S L Watkin lbw b Curran 8
S R Barwick not out 14
M Frost c Ripley b Curran 7
Extras (b 5, lb 13, w 2, nb 8) 28
Total 212
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-32, 3-44, 4-72, 5-115, 6-130, 7-175, 8-190, 9-130
BOWLING: Ambrose 27-7-61-4, Taylor 20-7-36-1, Curran 20-7-44-3, Penberthy 16.5-5-53-2, Bailey 1-1-0-0
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings 217 (A L Penberthy 54, S L Watkin 4-79)
Bonus points: Glamorgan 4, Northamptonshire 5.
Umpires: J D Bond and R A White

Hampshire v Yorkshire

SOUTHAMPTON (third day of four): Hampshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 77 runs ahead of Yorkshire

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings
V P Terry lbw b Foster 24
T C Middleton b Stemp 46
D I Gower run out 26
M C J Nicholas retired hurt 29
*K D James c Blakey b Gough 0
J R Ayling c Moxon b Stemp 21
M D Marshall c Stemp b Foster 4
†A N Aymes not out 50
S D Udal c and b Foster 33
C A Connor st Blakey b Stemp 37
K J Shine not out 0
Extras (b 8, w 4, nb 18) 30
Total (8 wkts dec, 108.2 overs) 307
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-33, 2-91, 3-132, 4-145, 5-176, 6-180, 7-243, 8-307.
BOWLING: Robinson 26-6-49-0, Gough 23-4-90-1, Silverwood 14-2-55-0, Foster 15-3-39-3, White 5-0-13-0, Stemp 25.2-10-52-3

Second Innings
T C Middleton not out 10
V P Terry not out 8
Extras 0
Total (no wkts) 18

YORKSHIRE: First Innings
*M D Moxon c Connor b Ayling 75
A A Metcalfe c sub b Ayling 42
R E Richardson c sub b Marshall 9
D Byas b Marshall 2
†R J Blakey c Connor b James 43
C White c Ayling b Connor 13
D Gough b James 19
M J Foster c Aymes b Ayling 6
R D Stemp not out 18
M A Robinson lbw b James 0
C E W Silverwood lbw b James 0
Extras (b 1, lb 16, w 1, nb 6) 24
Total (77.4 overs) 248
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-81, 2-93, 3-100, 4-175, 5-199, 6-207, 7-222, 8-234, 9-242
BOWLING: Marshall 15-5-35-2, Connor 15-5-37-1, Shine 12-3-41-0, Udal 3-0-17-0, Ayling 17-2-68-3, James 12.4-3-33-4
Bonus points: Hampshire 7, Yorkshire 4
Umpires: R Julian and A G T Whitehead

Sussex v Leicestershire

HORSHAM (third day of four): Sussex (22pts) beat Leicestershire (4) by an innings and 102 runs

SUSSEX: First Innings 271 (A P Wells 76)

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings
*N E Briers c Wells b Stephenson 17
T J Boon c Speight b Stephenson 12
J J Whitaker c Speight b Hemmings 3
P E Robinson c Wells b Stephenson 16
A R K Pierson c Moores b Stephenson 13
B F Smith c Smith b Hemmings 1
L Potter not out 13
V J Wells c Speight b Hemmings 8
†P A Nixon c Smith b Hemmings 0
A D Mullally st Moores b Salisbury 2
W K M Benjamin st Moores b Hemmings 1
Extras (b 6, lb 3, nb 2) 11
Total (39.2 overs) 97
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-16, 2-27, 3-32, 4-61, 5-62, 6-68, 7-87, 8-87, 9-96
BOWLING: Stephenson 14-2-48-4, Giddins 3-1-6-0, Hemmings 16.2-7-27-5, Salisbury 6-2-10-1

Second Innings
L Potter lbw b Hemmings 9
*N E Briers c Wells b Stephenson 0
T J Boon b Giddins 2
J J Whitaker c Smith b Hemmings 6
P E Robinson c Salisbury b Giddins 5
B F Smith c Moores b Hemmings 7
V J Wells lbw b Hemmings 2
†P A Nixon not out 18
W K M Benjamin c and b Hemmings 0
A R K Pierson c and b Hemmings 0
A O Mullally b Hemmings 21
Extras (lb 1, nb 1) 2
Total 72
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-10, 3-17, 4-16, 5-20, 5-30, 7-36, 8-40, 9-40
BOWLING: Stephenson 4-1-8-1, Giddins 15-7-19-2, Jones 2-2-0-0, Salisbury 4-1-12-0, Hemmings 14.1-7-31-7
Umpires: D J Constant and J C Balderstone

Worcestershire v Somerset

WORCESTER (third day of four): Somerset, with seven second-innings wickets in hand, are 176 runs ahead of Worcestershire

SOMERSET: First Innings
A N Hayhurst lbw b Lampitt 20
R J Turner c Curtis b Tolley 0
R J Harden c Rhodes b Benjamin 10
*C J Tavaré c Tolley b Benjamin 46
N A Folland b Radford 24
†N D Burns b Benjamin 44
G D Rose lbw b Benjamin 7
J I D Kerr c Rhodes b Benjamin 2
A Payne c Lampitt b Benjamin 17
Mushtaq Ahmed lbw b Radford 36
A P van Troost not out 10
Extras (b 1, lb 11, w 2, nb 6) 20
Total (81.5 overs) 236
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-20, 3-48, 4-66, 5-142, 6-158, 7-164, 8-177, 9-220
BOWLING: Benjamin 26.5-5-70-6, Tolley 13-2-37-1, Newport 13-3-26-0, Lampitt 12-4-24-1, Haynes 6-1-25-0, Radford 11-2-42-2

Second Innings
A N Hayhurst lbw b Tolley 6
R J Turner lbw b Newport 17
R J Harden not out 28
*C J Tavaré c Lampitt b Newport 0
N A Folland not out 21
Extras (lb 5, w 1, nb 2) 8
Total (3 wkts) 82
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-31, 3-31

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings
*T S Curtis lbw b Rose 35
W P C Weston c Turner b van Troost 3
A C H Seymour lbw b Kerr 1
O B D'Oliveira c Burns b Mushtaq 13
G R Haynes c Turner b Mushtaq 0
S R Lampitt lbw b Mushtaq 11
†S J Rhodes b Mushtaq 24
P J Newport c Tavaré b Payne 10
C M Tolley not out 16
N V Radford c Burns b Payne 2
K C G Benjamin c Kerr b Mushtaq 13
Extras (lb 2, nb 12) 14
Total (53.2 overs) 142
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-12, 3-44, 4-48, 5-80, 6-74, 7-93, 8-115, 9-123
BOWLING: van Troost 11-2-38-1, Kerr 5-0-15-1, Rose 10-4-21-1, Mushtaq 21.2-9-51-5, Payne 6-1-15-2.
Bonus points: Worcestershire 4, Somerset 5.
Umpires: J H Harris and G Sharp

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Axa Equity & Law League

Gloucestershire v Durham

BRISTOL (Gloucestershire won toss): Gloucestershire (4pts) beat Durham by five wickets.

DURHAM
O Fowler c Russell b Alleyne 91
W Larkins c Russell b Smith 1
P W G Parker c Scott b Alleyne 53
P Bainbridge run out 4
I T Botham b Williams 7
A C Cummins c Alleyne b Williams 9
I Smith lbw b Williams 8
†A R Fothergill b Smith 9
J Wood c Wright b Scott 11
*O A Graveney c Russell b Scott 2
S P Hughes not out 1
Extras (lb 7, w 2, nb 10) 19
Total (50 overs) 215
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-142, 3-153, 4-172, 5-172, 6-187, 7-180, 8-209, 9-212
BOWLING: Gerrard 8-2-36-0, Smith 9-0-33-2, Scott 10-1-35-2, Williams 10-0-46-3, Alleyne 10-0-30-2, Ball 3-0-28-0

GLOUCESTERSHIRE
B C Broad c Bainbridge b Cummins 2
G D Hodgson not out 104
R J Scott run out 0
M W Alleyne c Hughes b Wood 6
*A J Wright c Smith b Graveney 61
†R C Russell c Larkins b Cummins 27
T H C Hancock not out 4
Extras (lb 5, w 5, nb 2) 12
Total (5 wkts, 48.5 overs) 218
A M Smith, R C J Williams, M C J Ball, M J Gerrard did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-11, 3-38, 4-173, 5-211
BOWLING: Cummins 9-1-40-2; Hughes 9-1-31-0; Botham 10-0-31-0; Wood 5-1-17-1; Bainbridge 6-0-29-0; Graveney 9.5-0-63-1.
Umpires: G I Burgess and D O Oslear

Sussex v Leicestershire

HORSHAM (Sussex won toss): Sussex (4pts) beat Leicestershire by 63 runs

SUSSEX
O M Smith b Mullally 75
F O Stephenson c Whitaker b V J Wells 30
M P Speight c Boon b Potter 52
*A P Wells c V J Wells b Dakin 21
C M Wells b V J Wells 30
C W J Athey c sub b V J Wells 19
N J Lenham not out 24
†P Moores c Boon b Parsons 10
I D K Salisbury lbw b Mullally 8
Extras (b 4, lb 8, w 2) 14
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs) 283
A C S Pigott and E S H Giddins did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-61, 2-145, 3-185, 4-194, 5-240, 6-243, 7-265, 8-283
BOWLING: Mullally 10-0-52-2; Parsons 10-0-72-2, Dakin 10-1-62-1, Potter 10-0-31-1, V J Wells 10-0-54-2

LEICESTERSHIRE
T J Boon c Moores b C M Wells 28
*N E Briers c Lenham b Stephenson 4
B F Smith run out 2
P E Robinson lbw b C M Wells 22
J J Whitaker c Athey b C M Wells 13
L Potter c Moores b Stephenson 25
†P A Nixon b Stephenson 37
V J Wells not out 30
J Dakin not out 20
Extras (b 1, lb 21, w 8) 30
Total (7 wkts, 50 overs) 220
G J Parsons and A O Mullally did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-8, 3-66, 4-75, 5-91, 6-150, 7-159.
BOWLING: Giddins 10-4-32-0; Stephenson 10-1-29-3; C M Wells 10-0-34-3, Salisbury 10-0-34-0; Pigott 10-0-69-0
Umpires: J C Balderstone and D J Constant

Essex v Derbyshire

CHELMSFORD (Derbyshire won toss): Derbyshire (4pts) beat Essex by two wickets

ESSEX
*P J Prichard c Maher b Warner 3
J P Stephenson lbw b Warner 5
Salim Malik c Maher b Warner 13
N Hussain retired hurt 29
N V Knight c Bowler b Malcolm 54
†M A Garnham c Adams b Base 14
N A Foster lbw b Base 1
T O Topley run out 7
M C Ilott c O'Gorman b Adams 4
P M Such b Adams 2
S J W Andrew not out 0
Extras (lb 5, w 5) 10
Total (9 wkts, 59.4 overs) 142
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-21, 3-22, 4-118, 5-123, 6-134, 7-134, 8-141, 9-142
BOWLING: Malcolm 10-0-31-1, Warner 10-5-11-3, Griffith 10-1-31-0, Base 10-0-29-2, Vandrau 5-0-20-0, Adams 4.4-0-15-2.

DERBYSHIRE
*K J Barnett b Andrew 42
P D Bowler b Andrew 7
J E Morris c Salim b Stephenson 20
C J Adams c Salim b Such 9
T J G D Gorman lbw b Andrew 1
F A Griffith b Stephenson 18
A E Warner b Stephenson 0
M J Vandrau not out 23
†B J M Maher b Topley 4
S J Base not out 14
Extras (lb 7, nb 2) 9
Total (8 wkts, 49.2 overs) 145
D E Malcolm did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-56, 3-68, 4-72, 5-98, 6-98, 7-107, 8-114
BOWLING: Ilott 10-1-24-0; Andrew 10-1-25-3, Topley 10-1-42-1; Stephenson 9.2-2-25-3, Such 10-2-22-1
Umpires: J H Hampshire and P Willey.

Hampshire v Yorkshire

SOUTHAMPTON (Hampshire won toss): Yorkshire (4pts) beat Hampshire by 30 runs

YORKSHIRE
*M D Moxon c Terry b James 38
A A Metcalfe c Terry b Marshall 3
R B Richardson c Udal b Connor 81
D Byas run out 2
†R J Blakey c Middleton b Ayling 38
C White not out 19
A P Grayson st Aymes b Udal 0
D Gough c Ayling b Udal 8
M J Foster b Marshall 2
J D Batty not out 3
Extras (lb 5, w 3) 8
Total (8 wkts, 50 overs) 200
M A Robinson did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-73, 3-78, 4-159, 5-167, 6-170, 7-187, 8-190
BOWLING: Marshall 10-3-26-2, Connor 8-0-26-1, Ayling 10-1-42-1, James 7-0-36-1, Turner 5-0-14-0, Udal 10-0-51-2

HAMPSHIRE
T C Middleton b Gough 10
V P Terry c and b White 13
D I Gower c White b Batty 27
J R Ayling c and b Batty 0
J R Wood c Batty b Gough 20
*M D Marshall run out 59
K D James run out 6
†A N Aymes c Gough b Grayson 5
S D Udal lbw b Gough 3
C A Connor b Gough 12
I J Turner not out 1
Extras (b 4, lb 9, w 1) 14
Total (47.4 overs) 170
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-51, 3-56, 4-59, 5-116, 6-138, 7-150, 8-155, 9-169
BOWLING: Robinson 6-1-10-0, Gough 7.4-0-25-4; Foster 7-0-34-0, White 10-0-24-1, Batty 10-0-34-2, Grayson 7-0-30-1.
Umpires: R Julian and A G T Whitehead

SUNDAY LEAGUE

	P	W	L	T	NR	Pts
Derbyshire (13)	3	3	1	0	0	8
Kent (5)	3	2	1	0	0	8
Northants (13)	2	2	0	0	0	8
Sussex (11)	2	2	0	0	0	8
Lancashire (11)	2	1	0	0	1	6
Worcestershire (7)	2	1	0	0	1	6
Yorkshire (15)	3	1	1	0	1	6
Essex (2)	3	1	2	0	0	4
Gloucestershire (6)	2	1	1	0	0	4
Leicestershire (18)	2	1	1	0	0	4
Middlesex (1)	2	1	1	0	0	4
Notts (17)	3	1	2	0	0	4
Surrey (4)	2	1	1	0	0	4
Warwickshire (8)	2	1	1	0	0	4
Durham (8)	3	0	2	0	1	2
Hampshire (3)	2	0	1	0	1	2
Somerset (5)	2	0	1	0	1	2
Glamorgan (16)	2	0	2	0	0	0

1992 positions in brackets

Glamorgan v Northamptonshire

PENTYRCH (Glamorgan won toss): Northamptonshire (4pts) beat Glamorgan by three wickets

GLAMORGAN
S P James lbw b Curran 26
*H Morris c Felton b Taylor 2
A Dale c and b Cook 43
M P Maynard c and b Cook 7
I V A Richards c Felton b Cook 2
P A Cottey c Ripley b Cook 13
R O B Croft c Penberthy b Taylor 9
R P Lefebvre not out 36
†C P Metson c and b Taylor 5
S L Watkin run out 0
S R Barwick not out 1
Extras (b 1, lb 12, w 10, nb 4) 27
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs) 169
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-62, 3-73, 4-75, 5-99, 6-103, 7-124, 8-104, 9-168
BOWLING: Taylor 9-1-32-3, Ambrose 10-1-20-0; Capel 8-0-29-0, Curran 7-0-43-1, Cook 10-3-22-4; Penberthy 5-0-11-0

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
A Fordham c Dale b Croft 19
N A Felton c Metson b Watkin 4
R J Bailey c and b Richards 43
D J Capel c Maynard b Watkin 47
K M Curran run out 10
*A J Lamb st Metson b Richards 8
A L Penberthy run out 7
†D Ripley not out 5
C E L Ambrose not out 2
Extras (b 0, w 4) 5
Total (7 wkts, 49.4 overs) 170
N G B Cook and J P Taylor did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-45, 3-113, 4-128, 5-152, 6-158, 7-167
BOWLING: Watkin 10-3-28-2, Lefebvre 10-3-20-0, Croft 8-0-29-1, Barwick 10-5-23-0, Richards 8.4-1-30-2, Dale 3-0-18-0
Umpires: J D Bond and R A White

Nottinghamshire v Kent

TRENT BRIDGE (Nottinghamshire won toss): Nottinghamshire (4pts) beat Kent by nine wickets

KENT
T R Ward b Cairns 131
*M R Benson c Pollard b Cairns 3
C L Hooper c Johnson b Pick 94
M V Fleming c and b Cairns 0
N R Taylor run out 6
G R Cowdrey lbw b Cairns 0
N J Llong b Cairns 2
†S A Marsh c Robinson b Cairns 1
D W Headley run out 2
M J McCague not out 4
Extras (b 2, lb 13, w 6) 21
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs) 264
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-233, 3-237, 4-250, 5-250, 6-251, 7-253, 8-258, 9-264
A P Igglesden did not bat
BOWLING: Cairns 10-0-52-6, Mike 9-0-39-0; Pick 10-0-46-1, Field-Buss 9-0-50-0, Evans 9-1-40-0, Crawley 4-0-20-0

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
P Johnson not out 167
M Saxelby c Hooper b Igglesden 8
*R T Robinson not out 63
Extras (lb 6, w 9, nb 12) 27
Total (1 wkt, 35.2 overs) 265
P R Pollard, C L Cairns, M A Crawley, G W Mike, R A Pick, †B N French, K P Evans and M G Field-Buss did not bat
FALL OF WICKET: 1-52.
BOWLING: Igglesden 8-1-37-1, Headley 4-0-30-0, McCague 7-0-67-0, Fleming 7.2-0-72-0, Hooper 9-0-53-0
Umpires: V A Holder and P B Wight

Worcestershire v Somerset

WORCESTER (Worcestershire won toss): Worcestershire (4pts) beat Somerset by four wickets

SOMERSET
A N Hayhurst c Seymour b Lampitt 10
N A Folland c O'Oliveira b Radford 11
R J Harden c Leatherdale b Lampitt 6
*C J Tavaré c O'Oliveira b Lampitt 1
†N D Burns c Rhodes b Radford 4
G D Rose c D'Oliveira b Newport 14
K A Parsons lbw b Radford 0
Mushtaq Ahmed c M J Weston b D'Oliveira 6
A Payne not out 11
J I D Kerr c and b Newport 7
A P van Troost c Rhodes b Tolley 6
Extras (lb 5, w 8, nb 8) 21
Total (35.1 overs) 99
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-25, 2-36, 3-36, 4-39, 5-51, 6-51, 7-62, 8-74, 9-87.
BOWLING: Radford 10-2-25-3, Tolley 3.1-0-11-1, Lampitt 6-2-12-3, D'Oliveira 8-0-27-1, Newport 8-2-19-2

WORCESTERSHIRE
*T S Curtis c Tavaré b Kerr 12
W P C Weston lbw b Kerr 22
A C H Seymour lbw b Rose 2
D B D'Oliveira c Tavaré b Mushtaq 5
M J Weston b Mushtaq 3
S R Lampitt c Burns b van Troost 12
†S J Rhodes not out 24
N V Radford not out 1
Extras (lb 6, w 3, nb 10) 19
Total (6 wkts, 41.4 overs) 100
D A Leatherdale, P J Newport and C M Tolley did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-21, 2-24, 3-49, 4-54, 5-54, 6-97
BOWLING: van Troost 3-4-0-26-1, Kerr 6-2-13-2, Rose 7-3-19-1, Mushtaq Ahmed 10-3-17-2, Payne 6-1-15-3
Umpires: J H Harris and G Sharp

هكذا من الأصل

Hussain injured as Essex again fail to impress

BY IVO TENNANT

BATSMEN did not have it all their own way yesterday in the Axa Equity & Law Sunday League, whatever Paul Johnson's achievements.

At Worcester, for example, Somerset were dismissed for 99, Stuart Lampitt and Neal Radford taking three wickets apiece. If that would suggest a sporting wicket, no matter in this competition. And Worcestershire made heavy weather of reaching their target, taking 41.4 overs to do so.

At Chelmsford, [illegible] there was an almighty struggle for runs. Essex managed only 142 for nine, of which [illegible] made 54 from 104 [illegible]. They were hampered by an injury to Hussain — who was dropped for their Sunday match against Surrey last weekend for reasons that had nothing to do with his batting — who now had to retire hurt.

Derbyshire themselves were hardly able to force the ball off the square to any great effect but they won, nonetheless, by two wickets.

[illegible]

Wallace joins Lions as replacement for injured Hunter

Hunter: tour ended by dislocated shoulder

IRELAND, whose representation on the British Isles tour to New Zealand was a record low of two at *the outset, increased it by 50 per* cent yesterday when Richard Wallace was called into the party. The Garryowen wing will replace Ian Hunter, who dislocated a shoulder in the Lions' 30-17 win over North Auckland in Whangarei on Saturday and flies home today.

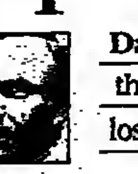
Wallace, 25, who has ten caps, hopes to have sorted out his business commitments in time to join the Lions by Wednesday; an associate partner with a Limerick finance company, he was on business in Moscow over the weekend. He will not be required until the game on June 2 with Canterbury, against whom he suffered a broken jaw while playing for Ireland a year ago. Andy Earl, the Canterbury flanker whose punch did the damage, was subsequently cited for foul play, having ended Wallace's tour.

Hunter, the Northampton wing, left the field in the 39th minute when his right shoulder was damaged in a tackle on David Manako. He joins a list of players whose first match on a Lions tour was also their last, *although Hunter* hopes that, at 24, his time will come again.

In Australia four years ago, Paul Dean, the Irish stand-off half, was replaced by Rob Andrew after damaging a knee in the opening game against Western Australia. Stuart Lane, the Welsh flanker, lasted less than a minute on the tour of South Africa in 1980, and Sam Hodgson (South Africa, 1962), Niall Brophy (Australia, 1959) and Wilf Sobey (New Zealand, 1930) all sufferred similar fates on their debuts.

"I would be a fool to let it bother me," Hunter said. "Although I wasn't on the pitch for much more than 30 minutes, it was the highlight of my rugby career. To run out in the Lions jersey made the hair on the back of my neck stand up. It means so much ... and hopefully I'm young enough to experience another tour."

Hunter will have a scan on his shoulder and will take specialist advice on treatment for what seems, initially, a straightforward displacement. He aims to be fit in time for the start of the new season with Northampton, and hopes to be in the England team to play New Zealand at Twickenham on November 27.



David Hands, rugby correspondent, sees the British Isles beat North Auckland but lose the services of the Northampton wing

Geoff Cooke, the team manager, emphasised the disappointment felt by the entire party. "I feel desperately sorry for him and, from the playing point of view, it takes away some of the flexibility we had, particularly if there is an injury to a full back," he said.

Aside from the injury, the management was relatively happy as *the Lions travelled south to Auckland* yesterday. Local opinion suggests North Auckland are better than their second-division status suggests and Stuart Barnes would agree. Barnes, captain for the day, played against North Auckland for England B last year, and was impressed by the change which Sid Going, their coach, has wrought in the set-pieces.

The Lions could only shade the lineouts, thanks largely to Cronin, and made no impression on the sturdy North Auckland scrum; but in Webster, the Swansea flanker, they possessed a player who gave them a significant advantage in the loose. His skills complemented those of the athletic Clarke and one cover tackle was of the highest quality.

The most disappointing aspect in victory by two goals, two tries and two penalty goals to a goal and two tries was probably the concession of three tries. "When the ball went loose we should have pinned them but they broke a couple of tackles and scored," Barnes said.

"We have to do the basics, and that includes tackling and ball presentation. If we do that we have players who can take anyone on. It's an area where the southern hemisphere derives a massive advantage which has not been understood. Players look better when the basics are high quality. We are working very hard at that but training against one another is not fully satisfactory. We have to confront southern hemisphere teams."

Indeed, all the players will now be aware that the pace of the game here is a yard faster than they are accustomed to. Reaction time has to be swifter and not all the forwards on Saturday looked comfortable in that respect. Even so, there was adaptability which will improve further over the next 12 games, as well as a maturity of approach which is the hallmark of experience.

Going, the former New Zealand scrum half, argued that such experience was used to kill the ball illegally, though he better than anyone knows that players play to what the referee of the day permits. Neither side came to terms with the new International Rugby Football Board directive which insists players join rucks and mauls behind the back foot, and the Lions would do well to heed the warning of Laurie Mains, the All Blacks coach, that lifting at the lineout will be frowned upon.

SCORERS: North Auckland: Tries: Te Puni, Seymour, T Going. Conversion: Johnston. British Isles: Tries: Guscott, S Hastings, Clement, R Underwood. Conversions: Barnes, G Hastings. Penalty goals: Barnes, G Hastings.

NORTH AUCKLAND: W Johnston; T Going, C Going, M Seymour, O Manako; A Monaghan, R Le Bas; L Davies, O Te Puni, C Barrell, G Taylor, I Jones (captain), E Jones, A Going, K Tupolotu. Replacements: R Hilton-Jones for Tupolotu (58 min), L Sigley for Te Puni (78 min).

BRITISH ISLES: A Clement (Swansea); I Hunter (Northampton), S Hastings (Watsonians), J Guscott (Bath), R Underwood (Leicester/RAF); S Barnes (Bath, captain), R Jones (Swansea); J Leonard (Harlequins), B Moore (Harlequins), P Wright (Boroughmuir), M Galwey (Shannon), O Cronin (London Scottish), A Reed (Bath), R Webster (Swansea), B Clarke (Bath). Replacements: G Hastings (Watsonians) for Hunter (40 min); P Burnell (London Scottish) for Wright (temporary replacement, 23 min).

Referee: L McLachlan (Otago).

Tour ends for Dawson as Beal sparkles

British Columbia 10
England 26

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN VICTORIA

MATTHEW Dawson, the England scrum half, lasted less than ten minutes on his first senior international tour. In chasing a charge-down, he pulled a *hamstring and can* forget about rugby for the rest of the summer. Philip de Glanville, the Bath centre, lasted 20 minutes longer but, *as he fed Damian Hopley* for the opening try, he was ambushed by the British Columbia full back, Scott Stewart.

It was a shuddering blow. Although de Glanville attempted to play on, he quickly had to yield to the pain and will have an x-ray on his shoulder. The tour management is desperate for him to be cleared of serious injury.

As Mike Slemen, the coach, said, there are two key playmakers in this England side. One is John Hall, hugely experienced and uncompromising, the other is de Glanville, whose distribution is vital.

Keith Morrison, the referee, reckoned that England had a third key playmaker. Unfortunately, the man he had in mind was Dawson. Morrison felt that, once he had left, the game became less controlled.

It was a good line from the referee but his chaos theory should have extended to Mark Cardinal, the Canadian hooker. The game had barely begun when Cardinal had Neil Back, the Leicester flanker, in a headlock. Fair enough, but the punches that followed warranted more than a penalty. Cardinal remained on the pitch and his throwing in to the lineout was crucial to the Columbian game.

The only times England broke Columbia down were from broken play, with Nick Beal rampant. His crossfield *run from a missed touch kick* set up Hopley's opening try and then his clever chip kick confused the defence sufficiently for Dawson's replacement, Kyran Bracken, to follow up.

Those scores put England 18-3 up early in the second half. It was not exactly a procession after that — David Pears being called to make three try-saving tackles at full back — but nor were England struggling. The only time they looked less than secure was when Gareth Rees came on as a replacement.

Dawson is to be replaced by David Scully, from Wakefield, who made an impression in the recent World Cup sevens.

SCORERS: British Columbia: Try: McKenzie. Conversion: Rees. Penalty goal: Tynan. England: Tries: Adebayo, Bracken, Hopley. Conversion: Pears. Penalty goals: Pears (2). Dropped goal: Challinor.

BRITISH COLUMBIA: S Stewart; S Gray, M Williams, M Doyle, B Ebl; J Graf, C Tynan (captain); J Hayes, M Cardinal, O Jackart, I Gordon, J Knauer, I Cooper, G McKinnon, C McKenzie.

ENGLAND: O Pears (Harlequins); N Beal (Northampton), P de Glanville (Bath; rep: A Adebayo, Bath), O Hopley (Wasps), C Oti (Wasps); P Challinor (Harlequins), M Dawson (Northampton; rep: K Bracken, Bristol); G Rowntree (Leicester), J Olver (Northampton, captain), V Ubogu (Bath), J Hall (Bath), A Blackmore (Bristol), M Johnson (Leicester), N Back (Leicester), S Ojomoh (Bath).

Referee: K Morrison (Vancouver Island).

Arms and the man: Francis, Stockport's goalscorer, clears Kerr during the final of the Autoglass Trophy. Francis's goal was to no avail. Port Vale winning 2-1

Wales win but fail to impress

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

BOTH Wales and Scotland started their overseas tours with victories at the weekend, Wales beating Zimbabwe 35-14 in Bulawayo and Scotland defeating Fiji B 14-7 in Nadi.

However, a flying start to a record-breaking win under Alan Davies, the Welsh coach, could not gloss over an unimpressive opening to Wales' six-match tour. Having scored two tries and 17 points in seven minutes, the touring team failed to capitalise as they fell foul of the conditions and the referee.

Ian Rogers, South Africa's leading official, penalised Wales seven times and awarded four free kicks for lineout offences, and gave 21 kicks against them in all. Zimbabwe gave away only two free kicks at the lineout among 11 infringements overall.

"The lineout is obviously an area we have to look at in terms of giving away penalties, as well as ball-winning," Robert Norster, the Wales tour manager, said. "We gave their players too much room. I'm happy with the win, but disappointed we didn't continue as we started."

Moon: first try

Neil Jenkins landed a penalty after five minutes and then converted two tries in the space of a minute. The tries *began at scrums on the* halfway line after Craig Brown, the home stand-off, had bungled his restart kicks.

Those errors were punished *severely as the touring* side attacked down the right flank. Simon Hill, making his first international appearance, set up Rupert Moon's first try for *Wales, then the Cardiff wing* crossed the line himself seven minutes later.

The Welsh effort waned as the searing heat and altitude began to *take its toll. Adrian* Davies dropped a goal and Proctor and Phil Davies scored tries, with Jenkins finishing with three conversions and two penalty goals.

Wales will face a tougher task in Saturday's second international in Harare.

Scotland rested yesterday before travelling to Suva where on Wednesday they will play their second match against the national junior side. Training was not a practicable option after Saturday's energy-draining experience in testing conditions of torrential rain and high humidity.

Importantly for Scotland, their seven-match development tour of the South Sea Islands began with a victory, albeit they almost let the game slip away in the dying *minutes* as they wilted in the heat.

John Kerr scored Scotland's only try and Ally Donaldson, with three penalties, accounted for the remainder of Scotland's points. For Fiji B, Kunaqio, the openside flanker, scored a try converted by *Sankura, the* full back.

Gracida's accuracy decisive for Ellerston

BY JOHN WATSON

THE Cowdray Park club's annual polo contest for the high-goal Smith Ryland Cup was staged at Ambersham, Sussex, yesterday, resulting in a 7-6 win for Kerry Packer's second team, Ellerston Black, against Cowdray Park.

Cowdray Park, without *their* regular back, Lord Charles Beresford, fielded the higher handicapped Horacio Llorente, of Argentina, in his place, which pushed their aggregate handicap up to 23, one over the top for this challenge. Thus Ellerston Black started one up on handicap.

Although Carlos Gracida and Roberto Gonzalez, the Mexicans, were slow to slip into their familiar partnership, Ellerston had the best of the first half, and bombarded the Cowdray goalmouth at the end of the third chukka.

The score was 3-3 at treading-in time with Jamie Packer showing exceptionally stylish play, and the close tussle continued through the fourth chukka. In the fifth, however, Ellerston drew 7-4 ahead, thanks mainly to three goals from Gracida, who was then in the saddle of the brilliant *brown gelding, Chesney.*

The sixth chukka went Cowdray's way, the last goals coming from Llorente and Bidou.

ELLERSTON BLACK: 1, R Williams (2); 2, R Gonzalez (7); 3, C Gracida (10); back, J Packer (3).

COWDRAY PARK: 1, The Hon C Pearson (2); 2, M Bidou (7); 3, A Kent (7); back, H Llorente (7).

Wembley warms to Vale's vision

Keith Pike welcomes the creative football produced by two second division teams

THE teams were less illustrious than they had been two days earlier and the competition as far removed from the FA Cup as is imaginable, but Port Vale, Stockport County and the Autoglass Trophy restored some of the magic to Wembley on Saturday. At last, here was a final that left you wanting more.

Vale won it, narrowly but deservedly. Their 2-1 victory, though, was more than just a reward for a beaming John Rudge and his equally delightful team. It also represented confirmation that skills can flourish rather than be shrivelled by a Wembley occasion, and that superior technique can prevail no matter the obduracy of the opposition. Sheffield Wednesday, please note.

Vale are very much the Wednesday of the second division: they keep it on the deck, play it to feet, create space by running off the ball and attack from the flanks. Above all, they are highly entertaining. But, like Wednesday, consistency has been elusive and this was the club's first appearance at Wembley in their 117-year history. Even Rudge thought it possible that Vale would freeze, despite the warmness of the afternoon.

He should not have worried. For just over an hour Vale treated us to a marvellous exhibition of free-flowing, thoughtful football which ran Stockport ragged. Kent, on the right of their five-man midfield, and particularly Kerr, on the left, had their markers chasing shadows, while the elegant van der Laan, stationed between two workhorses in Taylor and Porter, was given the platform to orchestrate proceedings, switching the ball unhurriedly across the full width of Wembley. With Slaven and Foyle proving equally elusive up front, Stockport floundered.

Goals were engineered for Kerr, who ran on to Slaven's inch-perfect through-ball and bent his shot past Edwards with the outside of his boot, and Slaven, after Foyle had laid Glover's cross into his path. It was, Slaven said, as sweet as any of the 147 he scored for Middlesbrough.

That the game developed into any sort of contest at all was down to Stockport's outnumbered supporters, who urged their team back into contention. The towering, tireless Francis headed a reply with 23 minutes to go, his 39th goal of the season, and Vale stumbled rather than sprinted to the finishing line.

Next Sunday, Vale return for the second division play-off final against West Bromwich Albion, who, under Ossie Ardiles, are renowned for a similarly stylish approach. "Next week's game was always of priority but we will approach it with the same attitude," Rudge said. In that case it could be a classic.

For Danny Bergara, Stockport's Uruguayan manager, there is no chance of early redemption. This was Stockport's third Wembley defeat in 12 months, and practice had not eased the pain of defeat. "If we keep coming we might win one day," Bergara said, "but perhaps I am expecting too much. We are down but we are not dead and the players have a choice. They can keep fighting or they do something else for a living."

PORT VALE: P Musselwhite; N Aspin, K Kent, A Porter, P Swan, O Glover, A Slaven, R van der Laan (sub: P Billing), M Foyle, P Kerr, I Taylor.

STOCKPORT COUNTY: N Edwards; L Todd, M Wallace, A Finley, O Miller, W Williams, J Gannon, P Ward, K Francis, C Beaumont (sub: A Preece), P Duffield.

Referee: O Elleray.

Taylor warns against tired excuses

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

DESPITE the ravages of a season that is, by common consent, too long, Graham Taylor has made it clear that he does not expect tiredness to play a part in England's World Cup qualifying matches against Poland, in Katowice on Saturday, and Norway, in Oslo four days later.

"You can talk yourself into feeling tired but I believe it's impossible to feel tired when you play for your country," the England manager said as the eight players who were involved in the mara*thon FA Cup final joined the squad at* Bisham Abbey over the weekend. "We can't afford to be tired. If we are that tired, then we'd better find people who aren't. I make no bones about it."

Taylor told the Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday contingent to expect more of the same against Poland and Norway. "They've had Wembley but they've got to get that out of their system now. That's part of my job, to get the message home that they are now preparing for two more cup finals, this time for their country."

Taylor expects the Arsenal captain, Tony Adams, to play in both matches, though he has confirmed that he will miss the US Cup tournament in the summer to have a hernia operation. He is less confident, however, about the prospects of Ian Wright, who has an ankle injury.

The Arsenal striker, who recently recovered from a broken toe, was unable to finish either of the two games at Wembley, and it is possible he will not *feature in the starting line-up in Katowice*, even if passed fit.

Wright missed the games against Holland and Turkey, from which England took three points, and Taylor is philosophical about the situation. "There's so much as England manager which is out of your control but you have to be able to adapt. If a player is missing, you get on with those who are available."

Taylor believes that 14 points may be enough for England to qualify from Group 2 for the finals in the United States and has set a six-point target from the last five matches. "If we take four from the next two games than thank you very much. If we were to come back with none then we would be making it very difficult for ourselves, but not impossible.

"We can put ourselves in the driving seat in four days. We've played 14 games away from home in my three years and lost only two of them. We can get results away from home. I have no qualms about that."

Earl Barrett, the Aston Villa right back, was called into the squad on Saturday as a reinforcement, swelling the party to 26. Barrett, 26, won his only cap two years ago.

Poland's recent 3-0 win over San Marino put them in sight of joining Norway, Holland and England in the hunt for the two qualifying places.

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Turner takes hazardous route to hold off Coceres

From Mel Webb in Modena

ON a breathless afternoon when the temperature made it almost too hot even for the gentle art of golf, it was a small irony that the Italian Open was settled yesterday by an expanse of cool, clear water. Greg Turner hit his ball into it, and escaped. Jose Coceres did the same, and perished. The result was a one-shot victory for Turner, whose 64 gave him a total of 267, 21 under par.

The lake that stands at the front of the 18th green at Modena Golf and Country Club had claimed its share of victims all week, but few can have expected the two leading players to succumb to its siren charms in the dying moments of the tournament.

Turner was 21 under par when he lined up his second shot. Water threatens all the way down the 501 yards of this par five, and he had put his drive in a perfect position. He bad 238 yards to go, took the bold route with his three-wood and ended in the water hazard to the left of the green.

Lane: low key

With his Argentinian opponent one of only two other men left on the course and also on 21 under, the onus was on the New Zealander to save himself. He weot back 81 yards under penalty, pulled out his wedge and put the ball what he described as "a very long three feet" from the hole. It was a magnificent shot under pressure, and he duly made his putt for par to equal the course record set during the week by five other players.

Within moments Coceres found himself in a similar positioo. He had 229 yards to go, but came off his three-wood horribly, and the ball skimmed and cut not moch more than head-high, hit the lake, ducked-and-draked twice and sank out of sight. He gathered himself, took his penalty drop and put the ball no further away than had Turner before him.

Turner had experienced this sort of situation before. He has been a winner in Europe, albeit seven years ago, has won since on the Australasian Tour, and took Jean Van de Velde to a play-off in the Roma Masters last month.

Coceres, on the other hand, was venturing into new territory, and after holding himself and his game together supremely well for 17 holes, he finally failed gloriously on the final green.

That three-foot putt must have seemed like half a league as he stood over it, and with the voluble Italian gallery reduced for once to silence, he slid the ball no more than an inch to the left of the hole. He finished with a 68: the agony, at last, was over. To Turner went the £73,400 first prize, to Coceres the consolation of almost £49,000.

This final day brimmed with uncertainty. At one time eight men stood within three shots of the lead; one by one, they fell away.

Barry Lane, for whom victory or outright second place would have confirmed even to him that a Ryder Cup place was his, was at one time within hailing distance of the lead. A low-key back nine, however, left him five shots behind Turner. Lane, who had a 70, shared third place with Wayne Westner, of South Africa (65), and David Gilford (68).

Lane, ever cautious, is rapidly coming to the point at which he will have to admit that he has won his cup place. He, like Gilford, won £22,760 here, and he has extended his lead at the top of the list to more than 35,000 points. Gilford's haul put him over the 200,000 mark and he is in sixth place.

Meanwhile, for Severiano Ballesteros, the greatest modern Ryder Cup player, no such jubilation is in the offing. He had a marvellous 64 here on Friday, but 75 yesterday left him in thirtieth place, 14 shots adrift. For him, a Ryder Cup place must seem as far away as the moon at the moment. Can Europe really afford to be without him? The portents, it must be said, are not good.

SCORES FROM MODENA

FINAL ROUND (GB and Ire unless stated): 267: Greg Turner (NZ), 65, 70, 68, 64. 268: J Coceres (Arg), 64, 70, 66, 68. 272: B Lane, 67, 69, 66, 70; W Westner (SA), 66, 72, 69, 65; D Gilford, 65, 66, 73, 68. 273: S Richardson, 65, 69, 70, 69. 274: R Rafferty, 67, 71, 71, 65. 275: B Marchbank, 69, 67, 70, 69. 276: J M Olazábal (Sp), 66, 70, 69, 69; W Riley (Aus), 72, 70, 66, 68.

277: J Hobday (SA), 68, 71, 73, 65; J Cook (US), 72, 69, 69, 67; D Cooper, 71, 70, 69, 67; J Payne, 67, 69, 73, 68; O Mijovic (Can), 66, 72, 70, 69; O W Basson (SA), 70, 68, 67, 72. 278: M Clayton (Aus), 68, 71, 72, 67; M Lanner (Swe), 68, 72, 72, 66; E Romero (Arg), 72, 64, 72, 70; M Harwood (Aus), 71, 69, 66, 72.

279: F Lindgren (Swe), 71, 69, 74, 65; E Giraud (Fr), 68, 71, 68, 72. 280: R Boxall, 69, 70, 72, 69; P O'Malley (Aus), 69, 73, 70, 68; S Bennett, 64, 76, 72, 68; S McAllister, 68, 74, 71, 67; W Grady (Aus), 67, 71, 71, 71; J Robinson, 69, 72, 69, 70; M-A Martin (Sp), 67, 72, 68, 73. 281: P Fulke (Swe), 66, 71, 73, 71; S Ballesteros (Sp), 70, 64, 72, 75.

EUROPEAN RYDER CUP POINTS TABLE (GB and Ire unless stated): 1, B Lane, 326,217.75; 2, N Faldo, 291,202.50; 3, C Montgomerie, 254,214.12; 4, M James, 251,331.58; 5, J Spence, 210,577.65; 6, D Gilford, 208,476.57; 7, S Richardson, 184,748.41; 8, J M Olazábal (Sp), 182,751.71; 9, P Broadhurst, 181,645.95; 10, C Rocca (It), 178,275.25; 11, J Haeggman (Swe), 177,499.26; 12, M A Jiménez (Sp), 172,935.32; 13, A Lyle, 172,103.01; 14, B Langer (Ger), 164,751.48; 15, J Payne, 163,590.01; 16, M Roe, 154,337.91; 17, S Torrance, 151,555.95; 18, G Brand Jr, 139,215.26; 19, A Forsbrand (Swe), 130,031.04; 20, R Karlsson (Swe), 125,804.04.

Triathletes bathe in their reflected glory

Simon Barnes watches the national finals of a minor sport that is eager and ready to become a major force

Tearing off a strip: competitors in the British triathlon championships get rid of their wetsuits on the run yesterday. Photograph: Ted Bath

BARON de Coubertin's dream seems to have had its day. True, the Olympic Games he founded gets stronger every quadrennium but not in the way the old dreamer would have understood. His pet lamb of a sport was the modern pentathlon, of course; a sport based on the notion of the gallant soldier getting the message through by riding his horse, shooting his pistol, swimming the teeming waters, swordfighting and finally running. The only discipline missing is writing a sonnet to his mistress.

But this romantic anachronism might well be displaced by a piece of romantic modernism called the triathlon. The post-modern pentathlon minus two, as it were.

Yesterday, they held the British national triathlon championships in romantic Swindon and I was there to witness it at close quarters. The event — a 1.5-kilometre swim followed, at once, by a 40-kilometre bike ride followed, at once, by a ten-kilometre run — requires the skills you don't meet every day. High among these is the ability to remove a pair of rubber trousers at high speed. Seeing these highly trained, highly charged athletes fighting to wrench their wetsuits free from their ankles is one of the most rewarding sights in sport.

"A bad transition can cost you the race," said one triathlon insider. At this distance, short by triathlon standards, seconds separate the leading competitors and the race is continuous. That means you must cycle and run in your clammy wet bathers, which is not the most attractive aspect of the sport.

But it is all worth it for the shades. It is expected, it seems to be absolutely *de rigeur*, to wear those horrible insolent reflective glasses that Ian Botham wore at the cricket last year. The ones with strange shapes and multi-coloured reflections that make your face look like a pool of spilt petrol.

Like all minor sports, triathlon wants to be a major sport when it grows up. It may yet become a major minor sport. The fact that not a single competitor is recognisable behind the shades — you could buy them in the competitor's area for a mere £111.99 — is a disadvantage I am sure the sport will rise above.

The triathlon dream is to displace modern pentathlon from the Olympic calendar in 2000. But there is already a decent living to be made from this game — half a million pounds a year for the very top men in the world, who plunder the elite events of California and Europe and endorse all the right gear. There is money in silly glasses.

But I suppose the point is that there are serious athletes lurking behind them. Spencer Smith — shades, baseball cap, pony-tail — won the men's event and Helen Cawthorne — shades, no hat, cropped hair — won the women's. Lots of futuristic androgyny.

The leading players in the world work to a training regimen that would appal most people in sport. Twenty kilometres of swimming, 100 kilometres running and 500 kilometres more oo the bike. And after that, I can reveal, a Merlin Extralite butted titanium frame will set you back £2,250; and after that, you have only a few things like wheels to go.

"It's what we all did as kids," someone explained. "Running about, going swimming, riding the bike."

The sport also represents a human-based vision of past, present and future: primeval emergence from the water, the mechanised age and final reversion to a primitive state.

But triathlon sees itself as part of the future. There is very much a brave new world self-righteousness about the event. There are, of course, two different kinds of sport: spectator sports and participant sports. Formula One represents one extreme, fishing another. Football and cricket are both at once.

Triathlon is expanding as a participant sport. There were 1,000 competitors at the Swindon event; they tell me there are 10,000 active triathletes in the country. I cannot say it set my personal pulse a-racing as a spectator but some people think so. Every time I get on a plane, they seem to be showing triathlon footage. One possibility is they are telling us that we may be hideously cramped and uncomfortable but at least we are not cycling 50 kilometres in wet knickers. The other possibility is that shrewd judges have decided that this is a sport on the cutting edge.

In France — a country that, quite literally, made rock climbing a sexy sport — they cannot get enough of the stuff. Triathlon truly believes it has got what it takes to become a glamorous minor major sport.

In August, they are holding the world triathlon championships in Manchester and they expect 1,500 competitors. It is all tied in, naturally, with that glamorous city's Olympic bid. I hope all the competitors remember their shades. That famous Manchester glare can do fearful things to unprotected eyes.

Whitaker in superb form as Britain seal cup triumph

Jenny MacArthur watches British riders take the honours at the Hickstead Nations Cup meeting with Michael Whitaker in lead role

MICHAEL Whitaker and Everest Midnight Madness won the Homepride British Grand Prix at Hickstead yesterday, less than 24 hours after their double clear round had helped Britain to a glorious win in the Nations Cup.

Whitaker, who won the Speed Grand Prix on Everest Uriels Foal earlier yesterday, had originally intended to take his former leading borse Monsanta into the grand prix. He decided to ride Sir Philip Harris's Dutch-bred Midnight Madness only after the Nations Cup.

"He improved noticeably over the two rounds on Saturday and I realised I had probably been under-jumping *him if anything*," Whitaker said. "He gets better and better each time I jump him."

Forty-one horses contested the £36,000 grand prix, in which there were two notable absentees. John Whitaker's Everest Milton, the winner in 1991, and David Broome's Lannegan were both slightly lame after their superb performances in the Nations Cup. Warren Clarke, the reserve for the Great Britain team, also had to withdraw from the grand prix after his horse, Benjumin II, was found to be suffering from colic.

Eight horses reached the grand prix jump-off. The only other Briton was Mark Armstrong, with his Windsor winner, Corella. The Dutchman, Emile Heodrix, set the standard with a clear round on Andalou Arabian. Whitaker then produced a breathtaking round against the clock finishing clear — more than four seconds faster than Hendrix. "He starts concentrating in the jump-off," Whitaker said. "He really tries to help you."

None of the other six riders could match his round. Edouard Couperie, of France, riding Quat'sous, was the fastest of the three on four faults and finished third behind Hendrix. Ludger Beerbaum, Germany's Olympic champion, had a faster time on Almox Grand Plaisir but had eight faults.

The £12,000 prize brought Whitaker's total winnings with the ten-year-old Midnight Madness to more than £150,000 in the 12 months he has been riding him.

One of his earliest wins came in the King George V Gold Cup, in the same arena, last June. This season he was runner-up in the Paris World Cup qualifier and third in the Rome Grand Prix last month. His goal now is the European Championships in Spain in July.

Britain's fine victory in the Nations Cup on Saturday, over the biggest course either of the Whitaker brothers can remember, has given the team a commanding lead of 6.5 points, over Germany, in the Nations Trophy series.

Britain, fielding their likely team for the European championships, finished 12 points ahead of the joint runners-up, Holland and Germany, who were both under-strength.

The win came after superb double clear rounds from John Whitaker on Everest Milton and Michael Whitaker on Everest Midnight Madness. Milton, aged 16, has probably never jumped better in his illustrious career. Revelling in the excellent going, he recorded his fifth successive double clear in the competition.

David Broome, competing in his 113th Nations Cup side, conjured two excellent rounds from Lannegan, with just four faults in each. Ronnie Massarella, the team manager, said afterwards: "Our riders are the best in the world." Few who watched Broome and the Whitakers on Saturday would dispute that.

Nick Skelton's experience, however, was not enough to compensate for his horse's limitations. The appropriately named Everest Limited Edition has not yet overcome his fear of the Hickstead water following his bad fall there in the Hickstead Derby last year.

In both rounds Skelton galloped flat out at the water, took off too soon and incurred four faults in the water and at the first part of the difficult double which followed. With remarkable consistency, Limited Edition also hit the Derby Rails in both rounds. "I've just got to work on getting his confidence back," Skelton said.

RESULTS: Homepride Grand Prix: 1, Everest Midnight Madness (M Whitaker, GB), 0 faults in 44.27sec. 2, Andalou Arabian (E Hendrix, Holland) 0 in 48.85. 3, Quat'Sous (E Couperie, Fra) 4 in 47.22. Homepride Speed Grand Prix: 1, Everest Uriels Foal (M Whitaker, GB), 0 in 77.07. 2, Saloni d'Araval (P Rozier, Fra), 0 in 77.49. 3, Quartzy II (E Couperie, Fra), 0 in 79.75. Nations Cup for the Prince of Wales Cup: 1, Great Britain, 8pts. 2, Holland and Germany, 20pts.

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OPERA page 30
Short and mainly sweet: a festival of mini-operas under the auspices of English National Opera

ARTS

BOOKS page 31
A new novel by Paul Micou has echoes of both the Kennedy clan and Robert Maxwell

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** is disappointed by Trevor Griffiths's slack new play

Wild punches fail to connect

Thatcher's Children
Bristol Old Vic

If Norman Tebbit were to publish a book called *Lenin's Friends* or Saddam were to write an epic poem entitled *The Bush People* we would hardly expect an exercise in dispassion and detachment.

So the tenor of *Thatcher's Children* should be no great surprise. For Trevor Griffiths, its author, Big Maggie is the "bad lady" summed up by a photo which shows her scuffing across some industrial wateland and looking, be it admitted like a demented ferret in search of bunnies to rend.

Every so often, other unflattering snips of Mrs Thatcher appear at the back of the Theatre Royal stage, and every so often a cool, BBC voice weighs in with reports of catastrophe. "Piper Alpha", the Kings Cross fire, Zeebrugge, Aids, salmonella, holes in the ozone layer, even the hurricane of 1987 gets a mention, leaving the impression that it was caused by a malign PM blowing very hard from her coven in Downing Street.

The young people in Griffiths's play, for whose plights our sympathy is invited, should think themselves lucky not to have been turned en masse into frogs.

Considering how slack and amorphous it sometimes seems, *Thatcher's Children* begins in surprisingly brisk, entertaining vein. It is 1973, and a primary school class is performing a Nativity play, which collapses in confusion when Mary asks if there is room at the inn and gets the cheerful reply: "Yeah, there is."

But then the expected duly occurs. The Winter of Discontent yields to a Big Chill, and the Big Chill to a socio-political permafrost that shrivels each of Griffiths's exemplary schoolchums. It all ends in 1999, with a spoof Nativity *performed for someone who might* be a dispatch rider, might be a security guard, and might be a mercenary. "We need a room." "We haven't got one."

By then, Mona (Marva Alexander) has become a "masseuse" called Miss Birch. Her sister Hess (Heather Imani) is a businesswoman, trade unclear, who senses she has betrayed her West Indian roots.

Daisy (Miranda Pleasence) has had her high-minded documentaries suppressed by the BBC. Tom (Ian Driver), a would-be poet with a love for the Palestinians, has gone mad after joining the RAF and committing mass-murder in Iraq.

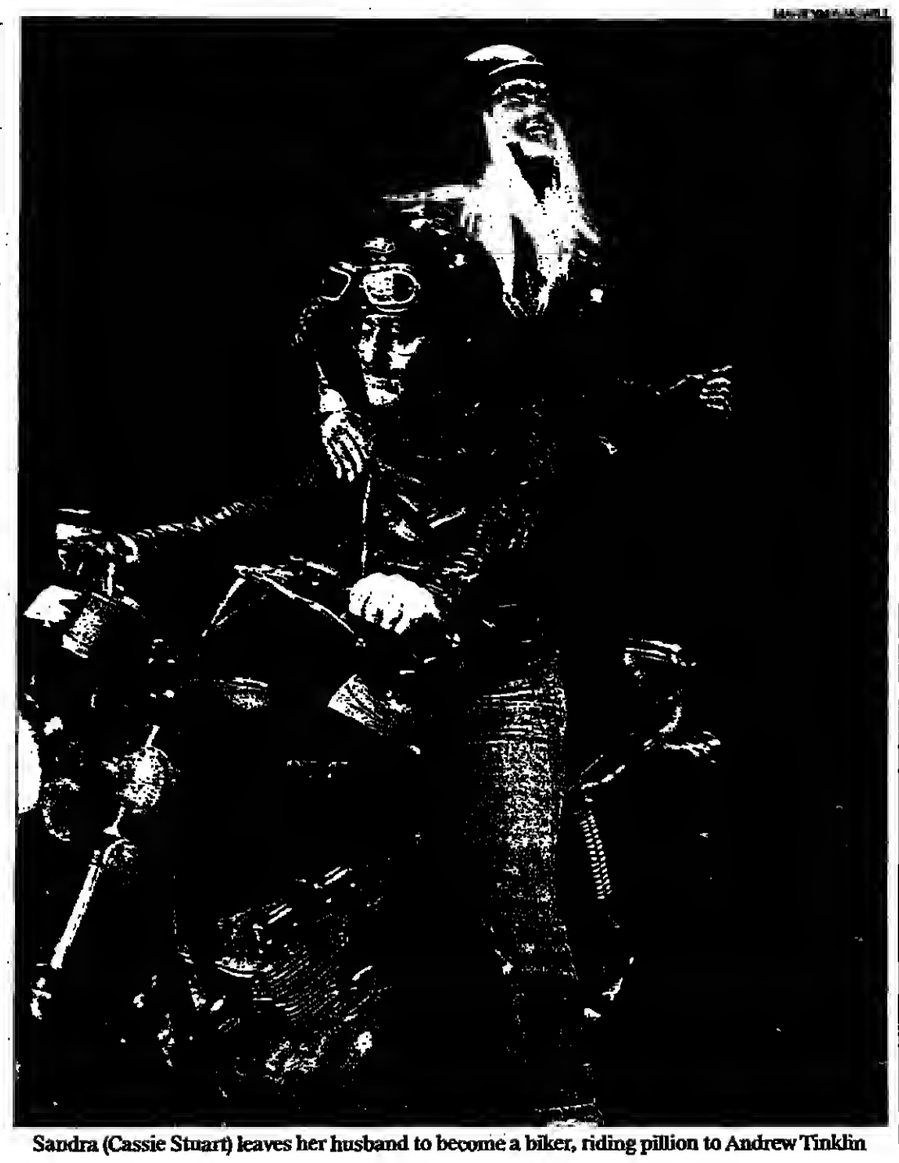
And Sandra (Cassie Stuart) has become a biker after leaving her husband Wayne (Giles Thomas) who joined the police, got depressed when Wales lost a rugby match, and crushed their child's skull.

With Wayne boasting of pulling miners from their hospital beds *and giving them a second beating*, and so on and so on, this is not the subtlest stuff. Indeed, only one character comes remotely to life: Gurvinder, a Sikh who cuts off his plaits in anger at being called Girlie, is rejected by his family, gets framed and imprisoned after a race riot, and ends up a wealthy drug baron. But despite the all-electric performance Kulvinder Ghir gives him, even he is all too obviously an *expression of Griffiths's social ire* and oddly nostalgic.

Running through the evening — Mona and Hess's mum, killed by a blend of racial abuse and NHS deficiency, is another example — is the idea that old covenants have *been broken, old values lost. Now,* I too feel that England has become a cruder, sadder place; but, unlike Griffiths, I suspect there are many reasons for my scepticism, among them my own increasing age and worsening temper. To attribute all our woes, public and private, to rampant Thatcherism is like blaming Arthur Scargill for the collapse of socialism.

In any case, were not David Hare, Howard Brenton and others making the same points about the brutalisation of Britain in plays such as *Knuckle* and *The Churchill Play* before Mrs Thatcher was as much as a "milk-snatcher" — and doing so with far more energy and bite?

Here is the big surprise. What has happened to the incisive and forceful Griffiths of *Comedians* and *Occupations*? Like his recent Iraq play, *The Gulf Between Us*, *Thatcher's Children* seems pretty lax. Intellectually it is thin, and *dramatically it suffers from stylistic* quirks, jumps, cuts, ironic songs, actors seen in video as they speak on stage; all of which pose problems of coherence and clarity which the director, Andrew Hay, has not been able to solve. Mrs Thatcher *still awaits a theatrical anathema* that does her justice.



Sandra (Cassie Stuart) leaves her husband to become a biker, riding pillion to Andrew Tinklin

DANCE

A count to go out for

Blood donors should perhaps qualify for a special discount when booking for the Royal Ballet of Flanders, invited to Britain by the Derngate, Northampton, and the Palace, Blackpool. Their presentation, **Dracula**, stars *the famous Transylvanian aristocrat*, renowned for his interest in transfusions, newly arrived at Carfax Abbey with three wives and many useful boxes of earth.

This *Dracula* was created by Stuart Sebastian, a choreographer *from Dayton, Ohio who had made* some 40 or 50 ballets when he died of Aids, just before the work had its European premiere in Antwerp. It is produced with a thoroughly assured confidence, treating the subject absolutely straight.

True, Sebastian did take risks with a pot-pourri score drawn largely from Verdi, but with bits by seven other composers. "Dies Irae" may be justified for Dracula's arrival, with a reprise on his later triumph, and "Requiem" is apt for the moment when Lucy's unquiet spirit finds rest at last with a stake through her heart. But presumably Sebastian, attracted by the cries of "sangue", hoped that audiences would not notice that the woman in the duet that accompanies Dracula's first seduction of Lucy is urging her friend, in Italian, "let's go, Macbeth".

Still, it is all good, full-blooded stuff, and the Northampton audience seemed transfixed by the shrieks, howls, screams and peels of thunder that burst in on every occasion. Lowell Mathwjch's costumes, too, are very handsome, and the varied arches which constitute most of Chris Phillips's settings prove eminently adaptable for *swift-changing scenes*.

A limitation is that Sebastian's story is told mostly by looks, gestures, confrontations and the like. So the actual dancing, which is plentiful, fluent and very ably if conventionally strung together, is in effect an interruption to and distraction from the acting. I make an exception for the ingenuity with which the women are arranged to stretch back their heads in duets so that the sinister count can gloatingly admire their smooth necks.

The performances are strong, from Chris Roelandt, an eerie David Bowie lookalike as Dracula, to Lorena Feijoo, an affecting Lucy. Ninon Neyt and Aysem Sunal lend humour, charm and fright to the roles of her friends.

JOHN PERCIVAL

One that was wrecked by Brecht

The Duchess of Malfi
Chelsea Theatre Centre

Brecht's interpretation of Marlowe's *Edward II* is comparatively familiar; the Chelsea Theatre Centre, at World's End, SW10, now presents the British premiere of his version of Webster's Jacobean tragedy, *The Duchess of Malfi*. Mooted as a New York production for Elisabeth Bergner in 1943, the piece was subjected to a tug-of-war between the imported British director George Rylands, who insisted on keeping as much of the original as possible, and Brecht — who at one stage removed his name from the billing. The play opened in 1946, was niftily tinkered with by Brecht after Rylands's return to England; and ran for no more than a month.

Rylands was right. Brecht has pared down and streamlined the original, attempted to clarify the storyline (Why? Nobody goes to Jacobethan horror tragedy for the story) and incidentally jettisoned most of the things we love about the play: the darkly gleaming mortuary beauty, the baroque curlicues of exotic cruelty, the inevitability of this sombre pavane of pride, madness and destruction.

Instead we have Duke Ferdinand's incestuous feelings for his sister hauled into the foreground as subtly as a sack of coal, with every "t" crossed and underlined with teutonic thoroughness. The play even opens with an interpolated scene from *'Tis Pity She's A Whore*, in which the hero confesses his love for his sister.

The other brother, the Cardinal, is whittled down into a cypher who is motivated by greed for the Duchess's property. There is not even naughty Julia to console him. And there are no waxwork effigies of corpses, no dancing madmen, to torment the captive Duchess. One is left wondering why Brecht took the project on, since he seems to miss the point of the whole genre.

The name of W.H. Auden was attached to this adaptation. One or two near lines might be his, but they hardly compensate for the losses, notably the Duchess's reflections on her imminent murder ("throat cut with diamonds ... shot to death with pearls"). Again, one can only ask why.

Academy Productions' brave stab — perhaps the right word — at this rarity is distinguished by an outstandingly spirited Duchess. Vicki Pepperdine has a good line in angry contempt, the plucky lady's "strange disdain" miles away from the breathy, little girl plaintiveness that London audiences have recently heard in the part. She has dignity, a sense of outrage, a dash of sensuality. One day she must play the real thing.

Andy Lavender's straightforward production on Andrew Fifield's austere set (on the bare stage there are free-standing panels and a throne by Charles Rennie Mackintosh) faithfully echoes Brecht's lack of clutter. The trouble is, it is that very clutter — funereal jet and sable, reeking blades, piles of corpses — that make the play, an Inigo Jones charnel-house, into a masterpiece.

MARTIN HOYLE

ROCK CONCERT

Bruce's bowlful, with extra cheese

There were two routes to the National Bowl at Milton Keynes: one involved a train, a short coach ride and a long walk through the concrete countryside; the other featured many miles of motorway, tiresome tailbacks and a deeply muddy car park.

When you finally arrived at the revamped outdoor venue the initial shock was that it was almost the same as it had been before. Assorted food salespersons lined the perimeter of the grass-banked amphitheatre, beer tents had been pitched within and a certain Americanisation had occurred, but in reality little had changed.

In some ways the same could be said for **Bruce Springsteen**. This show was his arena concerts of last summer writ large.

Opening gently and building subtly with the folksongs-on-steroids that have become his stock in trade Springsteen — stubbled, bandanna-wearing and sleeveless — played a measured first half with only "Lucky Town" and "Better Days" benefiting from this new subdued treatment.

It was not until "Because the Night" that the 60,000 crowd, hitherto numbed by a vague feeling of non-event and too much lager, truly responded. "Brilliant Disguise", the uncomfortable account of defeat and alienation from his classic divorce album *Tunnel of Love*, was potent in its sad simplicity and "The River" was brooding and superb. Yet despite a rousing "My Home Town" and the fact that Bruce's neckerchief had magically knotted itself around his head, there was still a prevailing sense that all cylinders were not being fully utilised.

It was only as the sun finally set that the show shot for the stars. Easing out the throttle on his hoarse howl and hamming it up helplessly — freezing himself into unconvincing waxworks and hurling himself at Roy Bittan on keyboards — Bruce can pull onstage stunts of such monumental cheesiness as to make Barry Manilow blush.

Springsteen and his ten-piece, post-E Street band hit their stride combining Stax soul, Sixties Dylan, Phil Spector's cartoon pop, gospel and even soft metal (Springsteen's guitar solos have taken on a mad, melodic recklessness widely believed to be the sole preserve of Neil Young). "Souls of the Departed" careered, via a mangled "Star Spangled Banner", into "Born in the USA", violently shaking out any lingering notion that it may have been anything but a bittingly ironic comment on Vietnam-puffed patriotism. By way of a pre-encore show closer, Springsteen hollered "I'm just a prisoner of rock 'n' roll!", spat out his drink and manfully rent his singlet assunder.

Encores have always been a prominent item on the Springsteen agenda and this show was no exception. With more false endings than Frank Sinatra's career he thundered through "Hungry Heart", "My Beautiful Reward", a celebratory "Glory Days" and his paean to teenage restlessness, "Born To Run".

The food stalls' business had all but evaporated by the time Springsteen returned once again (the Viennese bratwurst vendor's location opposite a terrace of urinals couldn't have helped). There was plenty of beer left, but the tokens necessary for clinching such an alcoholic purchase had run out. Undeterred and probably unaware, Bruce lunged into a curious choice of crowd pleaser. The amateur revellers shrieked with delight, the purists hung their heads and John Fogerty's "Rockin' All Over the World" Springsteen-style warmed the chill night air.

ADRIAN DEEVOY

An octogenarian who continues to be active: Witold Lutoslawski at work in his Warsaw study

Celebrating in partnership

Lutoslawski at 80
Barbican

A fortnight ago Penderecki's sixtieth birthday was celebrated at the Festival Hall with a programme devoted to his music. Last week, Ligeti's seventieth birthday was marked by a number of events at the Barbican. Last Saturday night it was the turn of a third major central-European composer: Lutoslawski's eightieth birthday was commemorated by the London Sinfonietta in another group of events.

Krzysztof Zanussi's documentary film on Lutoslawski was followed by the performance of a series of chamber pieces — including the Partita and the Sacher Variation — by the London Sinfonietta Soloists. But the principal event was the evening orchestral concert, conducted by the composer himself.

Lutoslawski is a young 80. Positively bounding on to the stage, he cuts a dapper figure. Admittedly, his favoured method of composition — involving the application of chance by means of ad libitum playing by the orchestra — allows him merely to flip pages of the score for entire passages at a time. But the cues are given as firmly and precisely as ever. With the Sinfonietta alert as always, these were finely controlled performances, rythmically sharp and texturally lucid.

Perhaps Lutoslawski's unassuming nature was responsible for the choice of somewhat slight compositions for the first half. The games of the title of *Jeux vénitiens* (1960-61) refer to the experiments with free improvisation — the earliest piece of Lutoslawski's to use the technique. In *Slides*, the percussionist (James Holland), positioned facing the ensemble, assumes the role of conductor with his periodic flurries on bongos and tom-toms.

Chantefleurs et chantefables is a setting of nine children's poems by the Surrealist writer Robert Desnos. The Norwegian soprano Solveig Kringelborn proved an ideal soloist, capturing the ingenuous spirit of the cycle with her appealing light tone.

The second half brought *Chain 1*, the work dedicated to the Sinfonietta in 1983, "as a souvenir of our common music-making". It is the first of an uncompleted series of pieces — one meaning of the title, which also refers to the overlapping strands of texture. The more theatrical *Trois poèmes d'Henri Michaux*, a setting of fanciful and faintly disturbing verses by the Belgian poet and painter, requires two conductors. Rather surprisingly, Lutoslawski opted to direct the London Sinfonietta Chorus, while their chorus master, Terry Edwards, took efficient charge of the instrumentalists, and the performance as a whole.

BARRY MILLINGTON

TELEVISION REVIEW

The sad case of the missing role model

This was very misleading. Pictures of a be-suited Cherie Lunghi posing with a fancy ballpoint as Helen West, a Crown Prosecutor, on the cover of *Radio Times* had led one to believe that her character in last night's **A Question of Guilt** (BBC 1) was a Helena Kennedy-type high-powered legal intellect who could not only provide a role model for brainy women, but also spot a logical flaw in the plot. I got quite excited. A woman in a man's world, set against a matter-of-fact single life, complete with flat, cat and answering-machine, a cross between Helen Mirren in *Prime Suspect* and Michelle Pfeiffer in *Batman Returns*. "Hi honey, I'm home!" West would call; adding cheerfully, "Oh I forgot, I'm not married."

So what a disappointment that Ms West's principal role in this Frances Fyfield story (adapted by Ted Whitehead, well directed by Stuart Orme) was to provide an attractive sitting duck for a teenage psychopath. Given that a thriller, like a chain, is only as strong as its weakest link, it was a pretty glum moment when the fetching Crown Prosecutor heard a noise, got out of bed and opened the door in her nightie. (Funny place for a door, I know; but that's a different story.) In bursts the psycho in black balaclava! Biff, slash, menace, plead, whimper! Not exactly progressive, this. In fact, the only acceptable aspect of this miserable climax was that, realistically, the cat had obviously scarpered.

But if West did not occupy the driving-seat of this plot, it is fair to say that nobody else did either. The film began with a murder confession, a heavily-accented East European called Darvas describing how a mad menopausal antiques dealer, Eileen Cartwright, had paid him £5,000 to kill a solicitor's wife. Duly convicted of the grisly deed, he then agreed to bear witness against his instigator (Gillian Barge, with black fringe, red lips and mirror fetish, nuttier than a squirrel's breakfast). Oddly, one was supposed to feel sorry for Darvas, who had bashed and sliced his victim to death. It was clear — though not to me — that all the guilt attached to Eileen.

Meanwhile West, in fleeting ballpoint mode, made friends with haggard policeman Geoffrey Bailey (Derrick O'Connor), and the game appeared to be afoot. But though the unlikely pair met and discussed the Darvas case frequently over their delicately burgeoning romance (no bonking), the viewer was wrong to assume they would uncover more facts. None was forthcoming.

For all the hanging about waiting for West to get slashed, there were no twists or surprises, not even the expected one — that Darvas's troll-faced earringed son Ed (Alex Walkinshaw) had committed the original murder, in place of his quailing Dad. No, the facts were simple. Eileen (mad) paid the money; Darvas (sad) killed the solicitor's wife; and Ed (dangerous to know) attacked West.

It's not worth going on about it. The sub-plots were daft — a junior policeman snogging while on surveillance; West ingenuously befriending young Peter (Ed's brother), teaching him chess while he gazed admiringly at her, like a Dickens urchin with a "boofer lady". Meanwhile the much-vaunted cat ("the real star" — *Radio Times*) was a mere walk-on-and-mew, nothing to get excited about. The best moment was when West inquired of Bailey, "You don't do lawns, do you?" It showed a refreshingly practical approach to relationships; while also hinting she had noticed he didn't do very much else.

LYNNE TRUSS

LONDON

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

LA BOHEME: John Copley's long-standing production of Puccini's tear-jerker returns to Covent Garden for a short run of eight performances. Mimi is sung by Deborah Riedel, Musetta, Karita Mattila, Jerry Hadley is Rodolfo and Anthony Michaels-Moore sings Marcello (Thomas Hampson in later performances). Daniel Oren conducts.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-240 1066), 7.30pm.

LESTER BOWIE: The great American trumpeter, co-founder of the Art Ensemble of Chicago and indignant spokesman on black civil rights, brings his heavy-duty lineup Brass Fantasy to *Ronnie's for a week-long residency.* The new live recording, *The Fire This Time*, follows the LA riots and is said to find the group in powerful voice.
Ronnie Scott's, 47 Frith Street, W1 (071-439 0747). Tonight-Sat, doors 8.30pm, *performance 9.30pm*

ROMEO AND JULIET: Joe Dixon and Joanna Roth play the star-crossed couple in Michael Bogdanov's production for English Shakespeare Company, in London after a national tour.
Lyric Hammersmith, King Street, W6 (081-741 2311). Previews from tonight, 7.30pm, opens Thurs, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm

ENSEMBLE INTERCONTEMPORAIN: The enterprising group performs a programme comprising Lutzow-Holm's *Contour* for piccolo and double-bass, Ferneyhough's *Cassandra's Dream Song* and Lindberg's *Ablauf*, *Storie* for solo cello and *Ur*.
Purcell Room, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), 8pm

BRIGITTE FASSBAENDER: The *leading mezzo-soprano* is accompanied by pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet in a recital of Hugo Wolf's 25 Lieder to poems by Eduard Mörike.
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (071-935 2141), 7.30pm

REGIONAL

BATH: The **Bath Festival**, which this year celebrates the 150th anniversary of the birth of Grieg, brings to the platform the talented young Norwegian pianist *Leif Ove Andsnes performing Grieg's Lyric Pieces*, sonatas by Beethoven and Chopin, and Debussy's *Estampes* (Guildhall, 7.30pm). Earlier in the day the Norwegian String Quartet gives a programme of quartets by Haydn and Grieg (Guildhall, 1pm); *Trevor Pinnock's* English Concert give a performance of Telemann, Handel and Bach in the Abbey (7.30pm). **Information and bookings: 0225 463362.**

MALVERN: The Almeida Theatre's acclaimed production of Griboyedov's satirical comedy **Chatsky**, newly translated by Anthony Burgess, goes on a *countrywide tour. Colin Firth repeats* his performance as Chatsky.
Festival Theatre, Grange Road (0684 892277). Tonight-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm

MANCHESTER: The distinctive bluesman **Buddy Guy** launches a high-profile tour promoting his latest album, *Feels Like Rain.*
Apollo Theatre, Ardwick Green (061-236 9922), 7.30pm

NOTTINGHAM: The musical **Return to the Forbidden Planet** varied the usual formula of a compilation show by sticking a dozen hits from the golden years of rock 'n' roll ("Who's Sorry Now?", "Great Balls of Fire") onto the plot of the 1950s sci-fi movie — itself an updated version of *The Tempest*. The mixture of great songs and Shakespeare misquotes kept the show running in the West End for three years.
Theatre Royal, Theatre Square (0602 482626). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, 2pm, Sat, 2.30pm

SHEFFIELD: **Peter Gabriel** returns to the live circuit for a series of gigs with support provided by artists from his own world music record label, Real World.
Arena (0742 565656), 8pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London
■ **House full, returns only**
◧ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

■ **ARCADIA:** *Tom Stoppard in* sparkling form brings together love, chaos theory and much else. With Felicity Kendal and Emma Fielding.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2.30pm. 180mins.

□ **THE BESHT TELLERS:** Reviving the tradition of Jewish storytelling, this travelling company brings two programmes of poignant, exhilarating tales to the West End.
Arts, Great Newport Street, WC2 (071-836 2132). *Telling Tales*: Mon, Fri, 8pm, Sat, 5.45pm and 8.30pm. 120mins. *The Story of the Last of the Just*: Tues, Wed, Thurs, 8pm. 150mins. Final week.

□ **THE CHINESE WOLF:** Funny, fresh David Ashton play, set in a scrapyard, where quick-witted Ronan Vibert must outwit Desmond Barrit's Mr Big.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (081-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm. 150mins.

◧ **CITY OF ANGELS:** Top quality Larry Gelbart/Cy Coleman musical, packed with wit, set in LA and the world of the private eye movie.
Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (071-839 5972). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 180mins.

■ **CRAZY FOR YOU:** Thrillingly staged new version of the Gershwin musical *Girl Crazy*. Exceptional entertainment value.
Prince Edward, Old Compton Street, W1 (071-734 8951). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

□ **THE DEEP BLUE SEA:** Penelope Wilton the victim of unsatisfactory men in Rattigan's well-staged but so old-fashioned drama.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

◧ **THE GIFT OF THE GORGON:** Blazing performance by Judi Dench in combat with Michael Pennington in *Peter Shaffer's RSC success tackling the* themes of justice and terrible revenge.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 3pm. 165mins.

■ **THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST:** *Maggie Smith commands* the brittle world of lost handbags in this elegant revival. With Alex Jennings, Richard E. Grant, Margaret Tyzack.
Aldwych, The Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins

□ **THE INVISIBLE MAN:** Not so cosy a venue as its birthplace in Stratford East but the show is as jolly as ever. Paul Kieve's magic tricks are amazing.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). *Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat,* 3pm, 150mins. Final week.

□ **JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK:** The Dublin Gate Theatre's acclaimed production, in London for five weeks at the end of a national tour.
Albery, *St Martin's Lane*, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm, 180mins.

◧ **THE LAST YANKEE:** Subtle and touching Arthur Miller premiere. Margot Leicester, Peter Davison lead a quartet of middle-aged Americans troubled by material success.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm. 90mins.

◧ **MACBETH:** An idiosyncratic performance by Alan Howard in Richard Eyre's murky production.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Wed, 7.15pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm. 140mins.

□ ***OKTOBERFEST:*** *Good performances, stunning set are plus* features in a slowish staging of Horvath's tale of love corrupted at a Munich fair.
Lyric Studio Hammersmith, King Street, W6 (081-741 8701). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4.30pm. 120mins.

□ **ON THE PISTE:** John Godber's slight but amusing look at partner trouble in a downmarket ski resort.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 135mins.

◧ **SEARCH AND DESTROY:** How to lose innocence and grow rich in modern America. Howard Korder's compelling *play inspires razor-sharp acting, directed by Stephen Daldry.*
Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 2554). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm. 140mins. Final week.

■ ***THE SHOWMAN:*** *Alan Bates is* clever and funny as Thomas Bernhard's self-obsessed actor but the play does not mount to much.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Fri, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

LONG RUNNERS: □ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) □ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ◧ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) ... □ **Cyrano de Bergerac:** Theatre Royal (071-930 8800) ... □ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) ... □ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) ... □ **An Ideal Husband:** Globe (071-494 5065) ... ◧ **It Runs in the Family:** Playhouse (071-839 4401) ... ◧ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat:** Palladium (071-494 5037) ... ◧ **Kiss Of The Spider Woman:** Shaftesbury (071-379 5399) ... ◧ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) ... ◧ **Miss Saigon:** *Theatre Royal, Drury Lane* (071-494 5400) ... □ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ◧ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... □ **Travels With My Aunt:** Whitehall (071-867 1119) ... ◧ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information from SWET.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

THE ABYSS: SPECIAL EDITION (12): Twenty-eight missing minutes restored to the grandiose, handsome fantasy about divers tending a stricken sub on the ocean floor. James Cameron directs Ed Harris, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio.
MGM Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 6279)

CUP FINAL (15): Bald but effective tale of Israeli and Palestinian soldiers with one love in common: soccer. Eran Riklis directs.
MGM Swiss Centre (071-439 4470).

I WAS ON MARS (15): Shades of Jim Jarmusch in these slight, quirky adventures of a Polish innocent in New York. Directed by German film-maker Dani Levy.
Metro (071-437 0757).

◆ **NOWHERE TO RUN** (15): Shabby variation on *Shane*, with Jean-Claude Van Damme as the fugitive helping Rosanna Arquette fight for her land. Director, Robert Harmon.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **PASSENGER 57** (15): A psychotic *terrorist hijacks a plane, but Wesley Snipes saves the day. Breezy revival of the Airport format, with Bruce Payne.* Director, Kevin Hooks.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

CURRENT

UN COEUR EN HIVER *(12): Love, sly* games and damaged friendships between two instrument makers and a young violinist. Wonderfully observant, delicate drama from Claude Sautet. With Daniel Auteuil, Emmanuelle Béart, André Dussollier.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **Lumière** (071-836 0691) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666).

GROUNDHOG DAY (PG): Harold Ramis's *marvellously fresh, humane* comedy about a weatherman (Bill Murray) who always wakes up to the same day. With Andie MacDowell.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **INDECENT PROPOSAL** (15): Sex, greed and Robert Redford: a potent mixture, though Adrian Lyne's film gets sillier scene by scene. With Demi Moore, Woody Harrelson.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Camden Parkway** (071-267 7034) **Empire** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

LEOLO *(18): Demanding, audacious,* exciting journey through a Montreal family's madness and dreams. Writer-director, Jean-Claude Lauzon.
Chelsea (071-351 3742/3743) **Metro** (071-437 0757) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772).

MEDITERRANEO (15): Misfit soldiers forget the second world war on a Greek island outpost. Affectionate, well-acted, light as air. Director, Gabriele Salvatores.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865)

SOMMERSBY (12): Richard Gere returns to Jodie Foster after the Civil War, but is he really her husband? Plush hokum, based on *The Return of Martin Guerre*. Director, Jon Amiel.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **Empire** (071-437 1234/497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 6279) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031)

THE STORY OF QIU JU (12): Chinese *stylist Zhang Yimou changes tack with a* wonderful, simple film about a peasant (Gong Li) seeking justice.
Curzon West End (071-439 4805) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366).

Full of spirit in the empty tomb

Richard Morrison hails a stunning new piece of music theatre by James MacMillan

Even when it comes to wooing Scotland's most fashionable composer, the ancient rivalry between Glasgow and Edinburgh simmers on. This August, Edinburgh devotes a whole festival-within-a-festival to MacMillan. But Glasgow has got its retaliation in first: MacMillan's new music-theatre piece, *Visitatio Sepulchri* (*V.S.* to the initiated) has just been premiered at the Tramway, as part of Mayfest. Of course, Edinburgh is also staging the work in the summer...

One is reminded of Jorge Luis Borges' description of the Falklands War: "two bald men squabbling over a comb". Not that *V.S.* is a bad work; far from it. It is as invigorating a piece of new British music as I have heard since, well, the last MacMillan premiere. But the work is saturated in Christianity — not just generalised Christian beliefs, but specific Catholic rites, texts and iconography. There are angels on stage, portrayed with church-window literalness; there is the empty tomb. Not for the first time, MacMillan confronts atheists, agnostics, even easy-going Anglican types, with an unnerving display of faith.

His musical style — "pile 'n high" *orchestration; non-stop percussion*; battering-ram chords mixed with sudden purple patches of meltingly beautiful tonality — does not please all. But what cannot be denied is his rampant power to put across strong emotions. He is hungry to communicate, like a reporter with a big story, and he has found a musical language that speaks straight to the gut. I would write heart, but that has too gentle a connotation.

V.S. was commissioned by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra with its Prudential Award winnings; fittingly, then, the orchestra is at the centre of things. Indeed, the first movement is only for orchestra: crunching, multi-layered writing evoking the Crucifixion, followed by a stunning passage for divided strings, slithering between the notes. This evokes the disarrayed disciples so well that the mime-show on stage seemed superfluous.

Francisco Negrin's ritualistic production comes into its own later, however, where MacMillan sets the 14th-century liturgical drama *Visitatio Sepulchri*. Three offstage men sing the angels' parts, while dancers represent them on stage. Three sopranos portray the women who find the sepulchre empty on Easter morning. The vocal writing is gripping: quasi-medieval triads laced with wild embellishments reminiscent of Gaelic psalm-chanting. Underneath this, the recurring instrumental refrains are anything but austere: their crazy-paved rhythms evoke Messiaen.

Another element is supplied by the Cantor, who is not the neutral narrator of Bach's passions (nothing is neutral in MacMillan), but injects a sceptical note, shouting rather than singing. Finally, all join in a superb *Te Deum*, containing ecstatic duets, a blazingly confident melody which rises in the brass and then the voices, and finally — in a *coup de théâtre* — the whole cast *speaking the words* "in Te, Domine speravi" over and over as they exit.

Conducted passionately by Ivor Bolton, *V.S.* was prefaced by unusual treatment of two familiar works. For Bach's Third Brandenburg Concerto the audience was invited to "promenade" round the players. In practice, of course, we all froze like statues. The playing was swift but slightly anaemic.

Then, for Stravinsky's *Dumbarton Oaks*, curtains on three walls were flung apart, revealing three dancers who proceeded to pursue and intertwine with each other. Whether this, or the pretentious titles applied to the Brandenburg's movements ("the infinitely small", "the void") shed light on these works or on *V.S.* is debatable.

A different way of performing Stravinsky's *Dumbarton Oaks*: dancers Fin Walker, Andrew Fifield and Gregory Nash at the Tramway

FESTIVAL: nine mini-operas

Scores would suggest that less can be more

Presented at the Donmar Warehouse as part of the BOC Covent Garden Festival, ENO Contemporary Opera Studio's "Soundbites!" combined three newly commissioned operas with existing pieces by Gerald Barry and Stephen Oliver. Billed as "ten-minute operas", the commissions turned out to be two or even three times the promised length. Scored for small forces — a maximum of string quartet plus flute, clarinet, harp, piano and harpsichord — and using no more than three singers, all were efficiently conducted by David Parry; well-played and sung by young performers; and slickly, if minimally, designed and directed by David Fielding.

Jason Field by David Horne, to a text by Charles Hart, was about the murder of a small child by a young man. Moving between the evocative and the documentary, its three-way encounter between characters designated Mother, Father and Son linked the families of murderer and victim in a cycle of guilt, recrimination and bewilderment. Expressively scored, with tough instrumental drama underpinning the dense — perhaps too dense — interplay of voices, the piece successfully negotiated the hazards of its emotive theme. At the same time, it was neither direct enough to draw the audience into the terrible situation, nor oblique enough to illuminate much of that situation's moral and psychological complexity. It was also too long.

It was followed by Gerald Barry's 1977 **Things that gain by being painted.** A disconnected series of observations on courtly life in 10th-century Japan, spoken (or very occasionally sung) by a lone female performer with interjections from an off-stage male, and a quirky accompaniment of cello and piano, this is a slight piece whose unlikely power derives from its spectacular oddness; but it needs more deadpan staging if its ironies are not to seem merely arch.

If none of the new commissions could quite match the striking idiosyncrasy of Barry's work, nor could they equal the theatrical assurance of the late Stephen Oliver's engagingly macabre 1977 piece, **The Garden.** This conversation between a gardener and a woman who has murdered her husband and buried him in a flowerbed offers a lesson in the deployment of essentially conventional musical and dramatic means to surprising effect.

It is a lesson which might profitably have been studied by the composer and librettist of Ease, Sally Beamish and Edward Kemp, whose attempt to dramatise a meeting between Emma Bovary and Eleanor Marx (who translated Flaubert's novel) made few concessions to either drama or clarity. There is some appealing writing for three female voices (the third being a maid who does portentous things with crockery), but Beamish's restless and self-conscious scoring only adds a note of hysteria to a pretentious scenario.

The gloomy impression left by *Ease* was fortunately dispelled by the final opera of the evening, **Solid Assets** by Colin Huehns and Meredith Oakes. Oakes's lively libretto, which takes deft satirical swipes at greed, credulity, connoisseurship and ladies who lunch, is vividly matched by Huehns's fluent and often funny score, which blends parody and pastiche with a convincing individual touch.

On Tuesday (the first night of two) "Soundbites!" played to a packed house, with friends and relatives of the performers almost outnumbering critics and members of the incoming and outgoing ENO regimes. For Thursday's "Four Dublin Operas" from Opera Theatre Company (repeated on Friday) the audience in the same venue was much smaller. This was a pity, as these short works, commissioned in 1991 to mark Dublin's year as European Cultural Capital, made for an enjoyable and musically rewarding evening.

Driven along by an urgent, eclectic score, Raymond Deane's **The Poet and His Double** was a richly dramatic Dublin confrontation between Shelley, who visited the city in 1812 to preach world revolution, and the French theatrical pioneer, Antonin Artaud, who was deported from it (to an asylum) in 1937 after exhorting the Irish people to chastity and repentance. A wry introspective charm contrasting sharply with Deane's political vigour characterised **Hot Food With Strangers**, by Marian Ingoldsby to a libretto by Judy Kravis, a comically poignant exploration of the desires embodied in the personal columns of the Dublin papers, in which five strangers temporarily abandon their inhibitions while waiting for a train.

After the interval John Buckley's **The Words upon the Window Pane**, its score fiercely expressive, its text adapted from Yeats by Hugh Maxton, offered a vivid picture of a seance in which a medium struggles with the spirit of Jonathan Swift. It was followed by **Position 7**, written by the Scottish composer Kenneth Chalmers, a *tour de force* monologue for a recently released hostage, punctuated and supported by intricate, incisive instrumental textures.

All four pieces were neatly staged by Nigel Warrington and rivetingly well sung and acted by the six-strong company, with the baritone Gwion Thomas outstanding both as the hostage and the deranged Artaud. The fact that these singers, and the conductor, John Finucane, had already performed the works in Dublin, Belfast, Waterford and Wexford, showed the benefit of a familiarity that can only come with repetition. As the composers of the "Soundbites!" commissions will probably discover, it is a benefit few new operas can count on enjoying.

IAN BRUNSKILL

ENTERTAINMENTS

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CINEMAS

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 071 465 8865 MEDITERRANEO (15) Progs at 1.45 (not Sun) 4.00 6.15 8.30

CURZON WEST END Shaftes Ave W1 071 439 4805 THE STORY OF QIU JU (12) Progs 1.20 4.10 6.20 8.40

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd 071 867 1044 HOWARDS END (PG) Progs at 2.30, 5.15 & 8.05

OPERA & BALLET

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مصور من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Victoria Glendinning enjoys an American satire about a pseudo-saviour who unites the charisma and cruelty of the Kennedy clan and Robert Maxwell

Salvation means losing weight

Paul Micou is an American writer living in London. *He is not yet very* well known, though his reputation has been growing quietly by word of mouth. *The Last Word*, his fifth novel, looks at the American Dream *through* a wickedly distorting lens. It is definitely worth reading.

Imagine a complacent, prosperous New England seaside town with its yacht *club*, its quayside restaurant, its commuters, its solid wealth. Imagine the exceptionally wealthy extended family that dominates the town — some of them just *old-world* exclusive, others sexually rapacious, or idly philanthropic, or compulsively philoprogenitive. They all drink a great deal. Uncle Ian, the richest of the clan, living alone in the most opulent of the family mansions, is so famous throughout the United States that he is virtually a god.

The reader can't help thinking of the Kennedy clan, and indeed this novel is about power, money, cruelty, charisma, how men gain dominion over others, and *why they want it. But Uncle Ian*, known to the faithful as the Great Man, is not a politician. He is in the "religion trade". As a young man he wrote an oracular book, *The First Word*, allegedly dictated from on high, and people started throwing money at him. In that book he predicted the date of his own death. That date is now imminent.

The narrator, the Great Man's nephew Matt, is summoned home by the family. This novel has a built-in cooling-system in that Matt, through whom we see and hear all that goes on, is an off-putting person. After college he climbed Everest, which gave him a certain public renown. Since then he has led the life of an over-privileged failure: avoiding work, keeping just on the right side of the law. By his own and others' account he is surly, unpopular and devious. He has become an outsider.

This has its advantages. Although the small-town setting, the family dynamics, and the tensions in the community in the days before the fatal date are sufficiently entertaining, it is Matt's chilly capacity to deconstruct the Great Man's success which gives this book its satirical value. As a story, *The Last Word* is not so extraordinary. As a vehicle for a controlling set of ideas, it is.

The Great Man himself was once an outsider too, a penniless Virginian lawyer who married into the clan. Re-invention of the self is an all-American idea. He aspired to the version of the American Dream encapsulated in the New England town: social acceptability and respectability, "rich people living in a perfect place".

Uncle Ian's new religion, which has brought him what he wanted, is tailor-made for modern America. It capitalises on the craving of a society seeking physical and spiritual perfection for dead-simple answers to the meaning of life.

THE LAST WORD
By Paul Micou
Bantam, £14.99

His is not just "another light-weight self-help programme for dim-witted malcontents". It is a complete belief system for healthy citizens with short attention spans. If they follow his way, not only will they gain salvation and make even more money but — and this was his stroke of genius — they will *lose weight*.

He doesn't ask much of his followers — just their devotion, and their money. They are not required to proselytise on doorsteps, or commit mass suicide, or stop doing what they like.

But since science is respected in America, he has established an institute manned by bespectacled people in lab coats carrying clip-boards. Since every religion must deal with the great beyond, he promises an afterlife in which the saved do what they were comfortable doing in life — watching television, on a battery of screens showing what's happening back on earth, with one channel on which each person is perpetually starring in his or her own show. Hell, by extension, is lousy television reception.

"Be your own product," the Great Man says. He markets himself as a mystery. He doesn't front his own fund-raising televisioo show, but hires someone with lots of hair and teeth to do it for him. "Sell something that someone wants." This probably will not be what you yourself want, he says, so you won't want your own product. Yet, thinks Matt, the Great Man has come to believe in his religion "as an extension of himself".

The Great Man, in his luxurious seclusion, indulges in conspicuous consumption of food and drink, and state-of-the-art espionage gadgetry. Matt notes that appetites, once sated, are replaced by others even more powerful, which has, he remarks, sinister implications for rich nations as well as rich men. Enough is never enough, and there is always something missing that money cannot buy. So more power, more money, more *possessions must be amassed. The Great* Man will do anything, however outrageous, "because I *can*". Those less powerful lick his boots, just to have part of the action.

The faithful are gathering to hail the messianic heir they have been promised if the Great Man's prediction of his death comes true. This is where Matt comes in. Only someone as greedy for easy money as he is could lend himself to the Great Man's scheme, and bear its consequences. The novel ends with some splendidly dotty set-pieces, and with rumours of murder, ruin and resurrection.

The denouement owes everything to the Robert Maxwell story, indirectly casting light on the psychology of that mysterious crook. It is good too, after enjoying this baroque joke at America's expense, to be subliminally reminded that the insatiable lust of some men for wealth and power, and the herd instinct to underwrite such monsters, are universal.

A field of battle, not a bed of roses

J.W.M. Thompson

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON
A Biography
By Frank McLynn
Hutchinson, £20

This substantial biography has been written, so the author declares, "in the firm conviction that Robert Louis Stevenson is Scotland's greatest writer of English prose" (no mention of Boswell). But the reader soon becomes aware of another, parallel belief directing Frank McLynn's narrative, namely his conviction that Stevenson was also extraordinarily unfortunate in his private life, and that the romantic myths which have surrounded his marriage and subsequent sojourn in Samoa are a travesty of the *often* painful facts.

So far as Stevenson's literary standing goes, most judges today will probably accept Gerard Manley Hopkins's opinion, warmly endorsed by McLynn, that Stevenson "shows more genius in a page than Scott in a volume"; but the placing of the man in his human context is more complicated. After Stevenson's death his family and friends created the cloying myth of "RLS", a saintly figure heroic in the face of constant illness and attended by a loving family of ministering angels. Then, in the inevitable reaction to all this, he was posthumously downgraded as writer and as man. McLynn is the latest biographer to attempt to separate the truth from both the mythologising and the debunking, and he does so in a vigorous, at *times* aggressive, fashion.

What emerges is a pretty fearsome portrait of Fanny Osbourne, the American woman, ten years *Stevenson's senior, with whom he* fell in love in France and whom he followed to California and eventually married. Photographs show her as a stocky, *determined sort of* person with a decidedly Napoleonic look; she is depicted here as a devious and ruthless female who alienated all her husband's friends in order to strengthen her own jealous control of his life and work.

As for her supposed role as his devoted nurse during his frequent illnesses, McLynn treats that with derision: in truth, he says, she was an advanced case of a *malade imaginaire*, whose usual response to her husband's illness was to take to her own bed. Her mental state led to spells of genuine madness. On top of everything she brought to the marriage a feckless son, a difficult daughter, and a sponger of a son-in-law, all of whom (as McLynn indignantly puts it) had their snouts in the Stevenson trough for the rest of their lives. Even her divorced husband looked for handouts from his successor.

Such a view of the Stevenson *ménage* is hardly brand new, of course, but it is put forward here with feeling and abundant detail. One might object that there is plenty of evidence that Stevenson was very fond of his awkward wife, in the early years at least, and that he seemed blind to the failings of his greedy stepson; but the indictment is a forceful one. Why did Stevenson tolerate so bleak a domestic scene?

The answer seems to lie, in part at least, in the lifelong sense of guilt he acquired from his Calvinist up*bringing* in *Edinburgh*, a *sense* doubtless reinforced by his dependence, for most of his life, upon the money allowed to him by his father. *McLynn suggests that the recur*ring "treasure" theme in Stevenson's stories is accounted for by his constant shortage of money of his own. When he quarrelled with his father, instant poverty was the result. A turning-point in his life came when, stranded in California with Fanny and no money, he received a cable from his father: "Count oo 250 pounds annually." His father's decision to end the quarrel changed everything.

Any account of Stevenson's life has to contain a chronicle of illnesses. He spent his last years in Samoa because he found the climate of the South Seas ideal for *his chest complaint. What that was* exactly is unclear: not tuberculosis, McLynn suggests, on the medical evidence, in spite of haemorrhages.

But the notion of the romantic invalid retiring to an island Eden is also briskly dismissed. Far from being a haven of peace, the island was evidently a rumbustious place. Stevenson was more than ready to take part in its noisy politics and society. Once, he seemed in danger of deportation for his outspokenness. Another time he risked a ruinous libel action by publishing a ferocious tirade against a prominent local personage.

It is refreshing to read a biography so powerfully arguing the case for its subject. Although not meant to be a work of literary criticism, it contains cogent observations about the novels and their origins within Stevenson's life and psyche. McLynn also notes the extent of Stevenson's influence upon other writers, from Conrad to Wilde.

Chesterton complained that Stevenson had suffered more than most from "this new fashion of minimising and finding fault". This book is an emphatic counter-attack upon those who still approach him in that spirit, although it has to be said that any lingering *partisans of Fanny will not enjoy it* much.

Stevenson's last picture (with Chief Tui): he risked deportation from Samoa for his outspokenness

PAPERBACKS

LIFE FORCE
By Fay Weldon
Flamingo, £5.99

WELDON'S delectable satire on north London life and the novels it has spawned follows the fortunes of a close-knit little group of families, all playing the intricate game of middle-class manners among the squares and crescents of NW1. Not everyone is playing according to the rules, however. Leslie Beck, brash, sexy, and unusually well-endowed, moves through the group like some primitive force no woman can resist. Looking back from the perspective of the chill Nineties, each has her own version of events. Weldon exposes the workings of the middle-class psyche with affectionate relish and uncomfortable accuracy. How she must have enjoyed writing this book.

PETER PEARS
By Christopher Headington
Faber, £9.99

THE music public has tended to treat Pears as if he were Benjamin Britten's mouthpiece, the personification of Peter Grimes and Aschenbach. Focusing closely on Pears, Christopher Headington offers a more rounded and complex character. Slightly older than Britten, Pears seems to have taken the initiative in their affair, which lasted from the mid-1930s until Britten's death in 1976. As a younger man he emerges as less steadfast in his artistic and intellectual commitments, even slightly camp, dropping out of Oxford, tinkering with piano, organ, bassoon and composition before developing, with the same vision and resolve he later brought to the Aldeburgh Festivals, an unmistakable rich tenor which combined dramatic high notes with the resonance of a much lower voice.

● *Contributors: Hazel Leslie, Brian Morton*

THIS WEEK'S DRAMATIC OFFERS

To book for any of this week's offers, telephone the Theatre Club on 071-413 1412, open 24 hours a day, or call the theatres during box office hours. You can also use the Club's booking line for other West End productions. A service charge may be levied for some shows.

● MIDWEEK BREAKS
Stay at the four-star Kenilworth Hotel in Bloomsbury and enjoy an evening performance and a matinee the next day for an inclusive price of £89. Choose from *Miss Saigon, Five Guys Named Moe, Buddy, Blood Brothers, Starlight Express, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (until July 8), *Kiss of the Spider Woman, On the Piste* and *It Runs In The Family*. The offer is available Mondays to Thursdays until August 31. The price is based on two people sharing. To make your bookings telephone 061-428 0008. This offer is not available through the Club booking line.

● LONDON
Romeo and Juliet
Lyric, Hammersmith
June 2-19 at 7.30pm
The English Shakespeare Company production featuring Joanna Roth and Joe Dixon and directed by Michael Bogdanov. Members can buy the best available seats for £10. Telephone 081-741 2311.

● SALISBURY
Good Morning Bill
Salisbury Playhouse
June 4, 8pm and June 5, 4pm and 8pm
A 1920s comedy of love and golf from P.G. Wodehouse. Members can buy the top-price seats for £6.90 or £7.20. Telephone 0722 320333.

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● NOTTINGHAM
Monsters, Magic and Great Big Fibs!
Nottingham Playhouse
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Members can take a child for nothing when they buy an adult ticket for this fantastic comic invention for anyone aged seven years and upwards. Adult tickets £8.50. Telephone 0602 419419.

● BRIGHTON
Moscow Chamber Opera
Theatre Royal
May 26, 29, 7.30pm
The Nose is an eccentric absurdist opera with music by Shostakovich based on a story by Gogol. Members can buy the best available seats for £10. Telephone 0278 328488.

To join the Theatre Club send a cheque for £12.50, payable to The Theatre Club, with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, PO Box 490, London E1 9DW, or telephone the Club booking number on 071-413 1412 using your credit card. For general inquiries please telephone 071-387 9673.
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Youth to fortune and to fame

Robert Nye

LIFELINES
An Anthology of Poems Chosen by Famous People
Edited by Niall MacMonagle
Penguin, £5.99 pbk

A RAGE FOR ORDER
Poetry of the Northern Ireland Troubles
Edited by Frank Ormsby
Blackstaff Press, £12.95 pbk

Here is an anthology of poems chosen by famous people, with a *foreword* by Seamus Heaney, himself a famous poet. The project began when some pupils from a Dublin school had the bright idea of trying to raise money for Third World charities in a novel way.

They wrote to celebrities from all walks of life, a preponderance of them Irish, asking them to choose a favourite piece of poetry and to write a brief paragraph explaining their choice. Four of the resulting collections have already been published in pamphlet form, and the present Penguin paperback is a selection of the best of this material. Royalties from the book go to Ethiopian famine relief and similar worthy causes.

The volume stands as some *sort of testament, perhaps*, to the persisting importance of poetry in many people's lives. Apart from that, and the fact *that it is inevitably something* of a glorious rag-bag because the contributors are so various, it seems to me more interesting than most anthologies for three reasons.

First, you can see at a glance from it which poets are currently most popular, at least with famous (mostly Irish) people: Yeats scores 10, Anon 6, Housman 4, Patrick Kavanagh 4, with Shakespeare and Blake and Hopkins in next place with three apiece. Second, there is pleasure and instruction to be had from the short letters in which the choosers seek to justify their choices. Third, and perhaps most intriguing of all, there is the opportunity which the exercise affords of allowing the reader to wonder, how much each choice tells us about the contributor.

One the last count, when we see Michael Holroyd going for D.J. Enright's "Biography" (*Much easier than your works/To sell your quirks*), or Mother Teresa selecting a prayer for peace from St Francis of Assisi, the connection between celebrity and choice seems quite straightforward. But what are we to make of Conor Cruise O'Brien choosing Milton's ode "On the Morning of Christ's Nativity" with the news that he *usually reads it aloud to his* family on Christmas Day, or Chaim Herzog picking "The Lake Isle of Innisfree"? It is where there is some little interesting *distance* between the public figure and the private favourite poem that this anthology fascinates.

Elective affinity: for the *Lifelines* anthology Lord Owen chose a poem by the Alexandrian Constantine Cavafy

I find it startling and then illuminating, for instance, that Margaret Drabble chooses Blake's three *stanzas* beginning "Never seek to tell thy love", precisely because their intense mystery is at odds with the level-headed realism of her own prose. And surely it counts as surprising that David Owen's favourite poem turns out to be "Candles" by Cavafy, even though he manages to find reasons vaguely to do with his political life for liking it.

The book is great fun, and the declared reasons for the choices are in some cases as interesting as the choices. Thus, John Gielgud chooses "Bredon Hill" because it was his audition piece for his first drama school; Judi Dench chooses "Adelstrop" by Edward Thomas because it reminds her of steam engines and *her childhood*; and Ben Elton selects the lyrics of Cliff Richard's song "The Young Ones", as they recall for him a poignant moment when Rik Mayall, asked to sign an autograph for a boy who was dying, wrote *Young Ones shouldn't be afraid*.

One minor point: of all the *contributors*, only Kingsley Amis, David Lodge, and Jeffrey Archer address their young female correspondents *correctly as Miss* in writing back. For the rest, we are in a mess of instant first names, Dear Friends, Dear Lifelines, and the like. *Something is* being lost from the language by such usages. Famous people ought to know how to *start their letters respectfully to* less famous strangers.

A Rage for Order, edited by Frank Ormsby, also has its origin in Ireland. This anthology consists of 250-odd poems which directly or indirectly address the conflict in Northern Ireland, for the most part by writers with roots in the region but with some contributions by outsiders. There are fine poems here by Louis MacNeice, John Hewitt, W.R. Rodgers, and Seamus Heaney, as well as good work by less famous poets such as Norman Dugdale and Robert Greacen.

Poets who take the Troubles for their theme have sometimes been overvalued in England, as though that tragic business conferred instant profundity on the slightest talent. The work to come out of Northern Ireland in the past 20 years, however, withstands comparison with anything being done elsewhere in the English language.

For that reason, the book can be read as an excellent collection of some of the finest contemporary verse, but it might also be considered essential reading for anyone with a serious interest in modern Ireland.

Two-thirds of teachers go home exhausted and yet half can't sleep at night.

In this week's TES
Dr Ruth Chambers assesses the profession's health.

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مصدرا من الاصل

BOB DEAN

The scrum of life: so-called extramural activities are dovetailed automatically with academic studies similar to the state school core curriculum

To the core of the child

Independent schools should incorporate the national curriculum into a philosophy that considers the 'whole' child, **Waine Lawton** says

The national curriculum still makes headlines many years after it was first voiced as the "only way forward" for state schools. But what of its future in the independent sector?

One reason for introducing the curriculum was to make schools more accountable and to ensure that children are educated to an acceptable standard. This means there is now regulation within the state system. Certain core subjects must be taught to GCSE level.

The national curriculum has created a headache in many maintained schools. Among other things, it has meant that details of a child's progress throughout the school must be kept and that parents must be informed. While this may not seem irrational, in primary schools in the maintained sector, where classes are large and children unstreamed, it has meant a lot more administration for the class teacher.

Such a problem is considerably reduced in the private sector, which for some years has undertaken similar procedures as a matter of course. Classes are generally small — whether at pre-prep or prep — and although children may not be "streamed", there is ample provision to cope with the slower ones as well as the brighter pupils. All are encouraged to advance at their own pace and parents are kept informed of progress.

Independent schools are not yet obliged to follow the national curriculum, although it is an option open to them. At present, most schools prepare their pupils for Common Entrance and follow a similar route, although at scholarship level the demands from secondary schools differ.

At Taverham Hall, we prepare our children for scholarships and common entrance but pursue national curriculum up to the age of seven and, where possible, 11. The syllabuses we follow are like those in other prep schools. Parents and pupils know what is expected of them. There are no "hidden extras".

Reacting to changes in syllabuses, preparing regular tests, keeping parents informed and publishing results are objectives that are already entrenched in the independent sector. These appear to be new and additional items for state schools to take on board. Over the past two years, many independent schools have sent teachers on in-service courses directed towards the national curriculum, so keeping them up to date.

It would be foolish of Taverham Hall or any other independent school to ignore the national curriculum. It has already made an impact on the common entrance board curriculum; subjects such as science have been brought into line for children up to the age of 11. I do not think we can stand aloof and apart. We are in a privileged position in that we do not have to react to all the turbulent changes facing the maintained sector. We have a degree of choice, but we must make sure that we do better.

Published results of GCSE and A-levels show that the private sector comes out way ahead of the maintained sector. But we have bright children and small classes, so we jolly well should. We can give individual attention and bring out the best in the child. An important part of education is building up children's confidence and giving them skills that will stand them in good stead in life. When they leave school, they should feel able to tackle most things. If the foundations are right, particularly at preparatory level, children can build on them in later education and, indeed, life. We are trying to educate the "whole" person. We are trying to catch children's minds and manipulate them so that they regard school positively.

Many have said that is why the national curriculum has been forced on the maintained sector. Schools were not doing this. There are certainly some that are succeeding, but too many that are not. Underfunding, low salaries and poor conditions of service have often been cited by unions as reasons for poor performance. While an element of truth may exist in these argument, it is, surely, the acceptance of mediocrity that is to blame.

One must have a good, dedicated team to draw out the best in the child. I think that in the independent sector we have that. There is no line of demarcation. Extramural activities are part of teaching, and if the activity is after "normal" hours, whatever they are, then it is still done. Games, music, drama, woodwork, shooting, fishing or photography are all necessary for the development of the "whole" person. Unfortunately, this attitude does not always flow through the maintained sector.

Whether the independent sector chooses to adopt the national curriculum or manages to formulate a system that is acceptable to both the examining boards and parents, I am convinced that really good independent schools will flourish. When a school closes through lack of numbers, national curriculum or not, it is quite probable that the absence of quality was a leading factor in its demise. Education must not be mediocre. Not all parents can afford an independent education, and that is why it is essential that the national curriculum does succeed and the maintained sector rises to the challenge.

● *The author is headmaster of Taverham Hall School, in Norfolk.*

Goodbye to Mr Chips and his era

The modern 'houseparent' has to be all things to all boys and girls

When parents make the weighty and often tortured decision to educate their child at a boarding school, it is the housemaster, or housemistress, who forms the sensitive link between home and school: he also undertakes to be *in loco parentis*.

A number of public schools still encourage parents to choose the house to which their child is to be entrusted, the nature of the house reflecting the character of the housemaster, who may rule with autonomy. Other schools prefer to select houses for parents, more easily achieving homogeny between houses and balance in numbers.

House staff are usually promoted from the teaching ranks, having perhaps been house tutors, when they will have witnessed the rigours of running a house. Effective teachers do not necessarily make successful house staff, as the complex and often conflicting demands of child, parent, headmaster and state require them to possess prodigious personal skills.

Having made the significant decision to commit their child to the housemaster's expensive care and influence for two thirds of each year, what should parents expect of him?

Some parents, even those not new to the insular world of boarding schools, may feel wary of dealing with house staff, or transfer unresolved childhood awe of headmasters to their new authority figure. Others prefer to treat house staff merely as employees. Neither get the best value for money.

House staff who encourage rapport with parents in the early stages may be easing the passage for all concerned if there are turbulent times ahead. Good housemasters exercise foresight and will alert parents to problems before they become disasters, thus eliminating the necessity for the unexpected telephone call that every parent dreads, regretting to inform of suspension or worse. One housemaster, calculating the shock value of a proudly acquired pierced ear, had the acumen to ring his charge's father, an army officer serving abroad, to give him time to appreciate his son's enterprise before the child's arrival.

The housemaster also requires a stock of actions to use in response to parental anxiety, being aware that parents, reflecting their child's distress, paint themselves into intractable corners. For every concern he must have a response, even if it is a thinly disguised delaying tactic. His prompt assessment of situations followed by appropriate action is an essential requirement of parents and pupils, together with a fine understanding of when delay will dissolve a problem or increase a child's frustration.

A principal aspect of the housemaster's role is his responsibility for discipline: parents and children expect him to be just, sympathetic and possessing a sense of humour. His knowledge of the clearly published rules and of precedents must be detailed and sharp, as there will be innumerable challenges to his judgment from transgressors — and from their parents. Strong disciplinary house staff are generally admired by parents until their offspring receive punishment; then a softer cocktail of compassion, benefit of doubt and mercy is expected.

Above all, house staff need to be diplomats. They are the child's representatives within school and between school and home, and when things go awry they become advocates. Absent parents rely on the housemaster to negotiate with other members of staff on their child's behalf: his primary responsibility is for the welfare of the child, so that even when a pupil is clearly in the wrong, he often has to act as advocate.

Commitment to the child becomes paramount in dealings with separated or divorced parents, when the housemaster has to avoid being sucked into family battles. A necessary aspect of this role, which parents may have difficulty in accepting, is the confidentiality which grows between housemaster and pupil, secrets concerning the child's school life which parents may never know.

Finally, in order for our paragon of rectitude to function effectively, we must require him to be aware of certain realities. The upright and kindly academic without a clear understanding of what forces drive his house should not be the parents' model. House staff must be aware that pupil culture and peer pressure constitute some of the most powerful influences in the school: these forces can, if understood, be beneficially manipulated but never eradicated.

To comprehend and respond to our children's actions, the housemaster needs to understand what motivates them. He should not expect to be popular, but, as all parents and parent-substitutes acknowledge, popularity does not necessarily go with the job.

AVRIL HARDIE

This article is based on a session given by parents as part of a boarding staff course at Bethany School in January, 1993.

House of Lords — Law Report May 24 1993 — Queen's Bench Division

Testing whether bias affected trial

Regina v Gough (Robert)
Before Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Ackner, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley and Lord Woolf
[Speeches May 20]

In all cases of alleged bias the test to be applied was whether there was a real danger of injustice having occurred as a result of the alleged bias. The same test was applicable whether the allegation concerned justices, members of other inferior tribunals, jurors or arbitrators.

In case of jurors the same test should be applied by a judge whose attention had been drawn to the possibility of bias on the part of a juror during the course of the trial and by the Court of Appeal on appeal. In the case of a magistrates' clerk the court should go further and consider whether the clerk had been called upon to give advice and whether there was a real danger that his advice had contaminated the magistrates' decision.

The House of Lords so held in dismissing an appeal by Robert Brian Gough from the dismissal by the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Farquharson, Mr Justice Alliott and Mr Justice Cazalet) (*The Times* June 3, 1992; [1992] 4 All ER 481; (1992) 95 Cr App R 433) of his appeal against conviction on April 25, 1991 at Liverpool Crown Court (Judge Lynch and a jury) for conspiracy to rob.

The question certified by the Court of Appeal was: "Where a complaint is made after the conclusion of the trial that a juror may have been biased against the defendant, what is the proper test for the Court of Appeal to apply in deciding whether or not to order a re-trial?"

Mr Benet Hytner, QC and Mr David Boulton for the appellant; Mr Brian Leveson, QC and Mr Andrew G. Moran for the Crown.

LORD GOFF said that the appellant was convicted on an indictment containing a single count of conspiracy to rob and was sentenced to a term of 15 years imprisonment. The indictment was based on the commission of eight robberies in Liverpool between April 13, 1989 and March 6, 1990. The first seven robberies bore features of striking similarity.

The prosecution contended that the first seven robberies had been committed by the same two men, the appellant and his brother, David Stephen Gough. There was however insufficient evidence to link the brother with the eighth robbery and the evidence against him on the other seven was weak. In the result, at the committal proceedings the prosecution applied for the brother to be discharged on the ground that there was insufficient evidence against him.

In opening and in the indictment the brother was referred to as David Gough. During the trial, photographs of both brothers had been produced to the jury, and retained by them. In closing speeches the brother was also referred to as David Stephen Gough.

After sentence was passed the brother, who was then present in court, started shouting. It was at that point a juror, Mrs Joan Smith, recognised him as her next-door neighbour. He, in his turn, informed the defence that one member of the jury was his next-door neighbour.

That fact was drawn to the attention of the judge, but he rightly decided that he was *functus officio*.

The juror was later interviewed by the police and subsequently swore an affidavit, deposing, *inter alia*, that when she began service on the jury she did not recognise the name "Gough" as she knew her neighbour as "Steve". She had no recollection of ever seeing the appellant before the trial and she had no idea that he was the brother of her next-door neighbour.

In those circumstances, the question arose whether the court should conclude that, by reason of the presence of Mrs Smith on the jury, there was such a possibility of bias on her part against the appellant that his conviction should be quashed.

The argument before the Appellate Committee was presented on the basis that there were two rival, alternative tests for bias to be found in the authorities, and that the result in the present case depended on the choice made by the House between them.

The first test, favoured by Mr Hytner, was whether a reasonable and fair minded person sitting in the court and knowing all the relevant facts would have had a reasonable suspicion that a fair trial of the defendant was not possible.

The second test, favoured by Mr Leveson, was whether there was a real likelihood of bias. It was recognised by Mr Hytner that if the real likelihood test was to be preferred the appeal would fail.

In fact, examination of the authorities revealed that selection of the appropriate test did not simply involve a choice between the two tests formulated by counsel in the present case. Thus, when the appropriate test in cases concerned with juries fell to be considered by the House in *R v Spencer* ([1987] AC 128), a variant of the real likelihood test: namely, whether there was a real danger of bias, was adopted.

There were also to be found in the authorities variants of the reasonable suspicion test and sometimes the two tests seemed to have been combined. At the heart of the present enquiry lay the need to identify the precise nature of those tests, and to consider what, if any, were the differences between them.

The authorities concerned with justices, with whom members of other inferior tribunals were to be bracketed, could start from *R v Rand* ((1866) LR 1 QB 230) which stated the law in terms of the real likelihood test. That test was later approved by the House in *Frome United Breweries Co Ltd v Bath Justices* ([1926] AC 586).

In *R v Sussex Justices, Ex parte McCarthy* ([1924] 1 KB 256), a case concerning a magistrates' clerk, Lord Hewart, the Lord Chief Justice, let fall his much-quoted dicum: "... it is not merely of some importance but is of fundamental importance that justice should not only be done, but should manifestly and undoubtedly be seen to be done". He went so far as to indicate that "even a suspicion that there had been an improper interference with the course of justice" was enough to vitiate the proceedings, an observation which had been invoked as the origin of the reasonable suspicion test: see also *R v Camborne Justices, Ex parte Pearce* ([1955] 1 QB 41) and *R v Barnsley Licensing Justices, Ex parte Barnsley and District Licensed Victuallers' Association* ([1960] 2 QB 167).

However, in *R v Altrincham Justices, Ex parte N. Pennington* ([1975] QB 549), Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, did not feel able to decide whether the real likelihood test or the reasonable suspicion test was appropriate: see also *R v Liverpool City Justices, Ex parte Topping* ([1983] 1 WLR 119).

In relation to jurors, there were cases in which the reasonable suspicion test was adopted: see, for example, *R v Pennington* ((1985) 81 Cr App R 217). However, in *R v Spencer* Lord Ackner, with whom Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Mackay of Clashfern agreed, held that the correct test was that stated by the Court of Appeal in *R v Sawyer* ((1980) 71 Cr App R 283, 285) namely, whether there was a real danger that the appellant's position had been prejudiced in the circumstances: see also *R v Putnam* ((1991) 93 Cr App R 281).

In conclusion, the law could be stated thus: it was possible, and desirable, that the same test should be applicable in all cases of apparent bias, whether concerned with the justices or members of other inferior tribunals, or with jurors or with arbitrators. In cases concerned with jurors, the same test should be applied by a judge to whose attention the possibility of bias on the part of the juror had been drawn in the course of a trial, and by the Court of Appeal when it considered such a question on appeal.

In formulating the appropriate test it was unnecessary to require that the court should look at the matter through the eyes of a reasonable man, because the court personified the reasonable man.

For the avoidance of doubt the test should be stated in terms of real danger rather than real likelihood, to ensure that the court was thinking in terms of possibility rather than probability of bias.

In a case concerned with bias on the part of magistrates' clerk, the court should go on to consider whether the clerk had been invited to give the magistrates advice and, if so, whether it should infer that there was a real danger of the clerk's bias having infected the views of the magistrates adversely to the applicant.

Lord Ackner, Lord Mustill and Lord Slynn agreed and Lord Woolf delivered a concurring speech.

Solicitors: E. Rex Makin & Co., Liverpool; Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters.

Council cannot defer its duty

Regina v Brent London Borough Council, Ex parte Macwan

While a housing authority might discharge its statutory duty to provide permanent accommodation to a homeless person in stages, if a stage could not itself qualify as settled accommodation, then the deferment of its duty pending a review of that person's housing circumstances while she lived in insecure temporary accommodation was unlawful.

Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held on May 12, when granting the applicant, Mrs Neela Macwan, judicial review of the decision of Brent housing authority on July 1, 1992 to defer discharging its housing duty under sections 65 and 69 of the Housing Act 1985 until February 1995 by awaiting a medical report on her.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the applicant had refused an offer of accommodation on an estate on the ground, *inter alia*, that that would exacerbate her mental condition. The authority indicated it was prepared to receive a psychiatrist's report, offered by her solicitors, and said it would withdraw the offer of estate accommodation in the meanwhile.

In January 1992 the applicant accepted "second stage temporary accommodation" but that was not secure since it was leased from a private landlord and expired in February 1995.

The authority might discharge its statutory obligation by stages (*R v East Hertfordshire District Council, Ex parte Hunt* ([1986] 18 HLR 51)). If a stage could not itself qualify as settled then the deferment of its statutory duty pending a review of the homeless person's housing circumstances, while she lived insecurely in temporary accommodation, however suitable that might be, was unlawful.

No liability for pilot's error

Oceangas (Gibraltar) Ltd v Port of London Authority (The Cavendish)
Before Mr Justice Clarke
[Judgment May 18]

A harbour authority's duty under the Pilotage Act 1987 was to provide a ship with a properly authorised pilot and it was not vicariously liable for damage caused to the ship as a result of the pilot's negligence.

Mr Justice Clarke so held in a reserved judgment in the Admiralty Court of the Queen's Bench Division, following the trial of a preliminary issue as to whether, on the basis of certain assumed facts, the defendants, the Port of London Authority (PLA), were liable in damages to the plaintiffs, Oceangas (Gibraltar) Ltd, for damage caused to their ship, The Cavendish, in a collision. The plaintiffs' action was dismissed following the determination of the preliminary issue.

Section 2 of the 1987 Act provides: "(3) Each competent harbour authority shall provide such pilotage services as it considers need to be provided ..."

Mr Charles Macdonald, QC, for the plaintiffs; Mr Stephen Tomlinson, QC, for the PLA.

MR JUSTICE CLARKE said that at the time of the collision the plaintiffs' ship had been in the charge of a compulsory pilot employed by the PLA.

The plaintiffs submitted that the PLA was vicariously liable for the [assumed] negligence of the pilot in that, under the 1987 Act, the PLA owed a positive duty to provide pilotage services to the plaintiffs.

Further, the PLA was liable to the plaintiffs in contract, having contracted to supply pilotage services subject to a statutory or common law implied term that they would be performed with reasonable skill and care.

The plaintiffs argued that the 1987 Act had altered the law such that where loss or damage was caused by the negligence of a compulsory pilot employed by an authority such as the PLA the owners of the ship concerned were entitled to recover damages from that authority. It was conceded that if the claim had occurred before the 1987 Act had come into force it would have failed.

Vicarious liability in tort

The plaintiffs submitted that the effect of section 2 of the 1987 Act was to impose on the PLA the duty to pilot ships for which it provided a pilot.

The PLA submitted that, although the 1987 Act contained express duties which the earlier statutes had not, those duties were no different in substance from the duties were in fact assumed by pilotage authorities in earlier times.

Was the PLA under an obligation of piloting ships in its area? Did the PLA have laid upon it the conduct and management of the ship? In his Lordship's judgment the answer to both those questions was "No".

If the draftsman had intended to provide for that new duty upon a pilotage authority he would have done so in clear and unequivocal terms. The duties which were now expressed in section 2 in essence gave statutory definition to duties which had been in practice assumed by pilotage authorities under the earlier legislation.

The purport and effect of section 2 was not to impose duties upon competent authorities to pilot ships but to require them to supply properly authorised pilots for ships. Therefore the PLA was not vicariously liable in tort for the negligence of the pilot on board the plaintiffs' ship.

It was important to note that the plaintiffs had not alleged that the pilot was incompetent or that the PLA was in breach of duty in providing a pilot who was not properly qualified or authorised to act as such.

Contract

The plaintiffs had argued that whether or not they could recover damages in tort they could do so in contract. Pilotage services were requested and provided for reward. The PLA's published terms had a contractual character since they obliged the plaintiffs to give and comply with accurate estimated times of arrival.

In his Lordship's judgment the arrangement made was no more than an arrangement to discharge the plaintiffs' statutory obligation by taking a compulsory pilot and paying for his services as provided for under the Act. There was no room for a finding that there was any contract between the plaintiffs and the PLA.

Solicitors: William A Crump, Southwark; Ince & Co.

Tax relief for management buy-out

Lord (Inspector of Taxes) v Tustain
Same v Chapple
Before Mr Justice Vinelott
[Judgment May 18]

Interest paid on bank loans taken out by members of a management team to secure shares in a company formed to acquire and carry on the business of a trading company attracted relief against income tax. The newly formed company existed wholly or mainly for the purpose of carrying on a trade so that the interest payments came within the relieving provisions of sections 353 and 360 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

Mr Justice Vinelott so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division when dismissing an appeal by the Crown from a determination by a special commissioner, Mr T. H. K. Everett, in favour of the taxpayers, Mr Rodney Tustain and Mr Ian Chapple, that loans of £30,000 made to each of them attracted relief for the years 1988-89 and 1989-90.

In 1987 the taxpayers were employed by Plessey Co plc. Together with other employees they began investigating the possibility of a management buy-out of Plessey Microsystems Ltd, a loss-making company that the Plessey organisation wished to dispose of. Each taxpayer borrowed from a bank £30,000 to subscribe in March 1988 for shares in Radstone Technology Ltd, the company that was formed by the management team to acquire and carry on Microsystems' trade.

Negotiations for the buy-out were completed; Plessey accepted the management team's proposals and the sale and purchase of Microsystems proceeded to completion in May 1988, its business being transferred to Radstone and thereafter carried on by that company.

The tax inspector refused the taxpayers' claims for relief on the ground that at the time in March 1988 when they subscribed for Radstone's shares, the company did not then exist wholly or mainly for the purpose of carrying on a trade.

Sections 353 and 360 of the 1988 Act gave relief from tax in respect of interest on a loan to an individual to defray money applied in acquiring any part of the ordinary share capital of a close company that was a trading company.

Paragraph 7 of Schedule 19 to the Act defined "trading company" as "any company which exists wholly or mainly for the purpose of carrying on a trade".

Mr Launcelot Henderson for the Crown; Mr Stephen Allcock, QC, for Mr Tustain; Mr Chapple in person.

MR JUSTICE VINELOTT said that the question for the commissioner was whether in March 1988 when the taxpayers borrowed to subscribe for shares in Radstone, that company, which clearly at that time did not carry on any trade, could be said to be a company that "existed wholly or mainly for the purpose of carrying on a trade".

The Crown's case was that it was only permissible to look at the immediate purpose of Radstone when the moneys were borrowed and that that purpose could have been only the acquisition of a business.

For the taxpayers it was argued that Radstone existed for the purpose of carrying on Microsystems' business and the acquisition of that business from Plessey was a necessary step that had to be taken if that purpose was to be achieved.

If a loan was made to acquire shares so as to enable a company to acquire a business and at a time when the company was a "shell" it could fairly be said that the company existed for the purpose of carrying on that business: the acquisition of the business was the means by which that purpose was achieved.

The Crown's contentions involved treating the acquisition of the business as an end in itself. It was, of course possible to imagine a case where a business was acquired not for the purpose of carrying on a trade, for example an intention to sell it at a profit. But that was not this case.

The commissioner's decision was correct and the Crown appeal failed.

Solicitors: Solicitor of Inland Revenue; Shoosmiths & Harrison.

Parol evidence rule still valid

W. F. Trustees Ltd v Expo Safety Systems Ltd

The parol evidence rule, whereby oral evidence was not admissible to contradict, alter or qualify a written instrument, remained a valuable rule of evidence in the construction of documents, particularly conveyancing documents.

Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge of the Chancery Division, so stated in a reserved judgment on May 17 dismissing a summons issued to determine the proper construction of a clause in a transfer relating to car parking rights.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the parol evidence rule had its critics, and it had been urged on him that it had been relaxed in relation to the construction of statutes: see *Pepper v Hart* (*The Times* November 30, 1992; [1992] 3 WLR 1032). But there was a world of difference between reading parliamentary debates, which were transcribed and published daily and reading the exchanges of the parties to contracts, which were private to themselves.

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EDUCATION

Oxford women and low marks

N.G. McCrum explains his research into the exam performances of state and independent school men and women at Oxford

The failure of women undergraduates to achieve their share of academic success at Oxford and Cambridge has been of considerable interest in recent years. The most comprehensive explanation is that of Dr C.B. Goodhart, a Cambridge zoologist who advances *biological differences* as a cause, together with sociobiological factors "...such as the supposed greater aggressiveness of the male, which could explain why women don't do well in competitive but non-athletic games like chess".

In order to examine these claims, and with the expectation of finding them simplistic, I have compared performance at Oxford in finals *between four groups, of roughly* equal size, of men and women from State schools and men and women from Independent schools. This has been done for the years 1987-91 for each major subject. In order to obtain a measure of performance — rather than consider only the first class — I have used the Norrington scale, which awards five points for a Class 1 degree, three for Class 2:1, two for Class 2:2 and one for Class 3. The average score for each group was calculated for each subject from data supplied by the Universities Statistical Record. For example, in a group of 400 people with 100 people in each class the average score is 2.75.

The performance of State women is compared to that of Independent women in a scatter diagram, Figure 1. For example, the scores in History are 2.66 for State women and 2.88 for Independent women: the resulting square plotted for History lies above the line.

State women obviously do not perform so well as the Independent women. This is a most striking result because in recent years the proportion of Independent women at Oxford has doubled, whereas *that of State women has declined* slightly. It might well have been expected that this would bring for the Independent women a dilution of talent and a decline in average performance.

The parents of Independent (fee-paying) girls spurned by Oxbridge have of late been venting their fury in the quality press. Maureen Lipman writes of her anguish. "Okay, my own child is an acquired taste. But it does seem to me something weird is going on. None of the nine from her school got in, and some with ten As weren't called for interview. What we're talking about here is interviews, and all these kids are bags of nerves. Maybe tutors can read characters more readily in streetwise kids who've done the improvisational, self-expression stuff they do at State schools. Perhaps private school pupils' manners are too good?"

She has a point. The Independent girls really are far better than the State girls at Oxford, but they are not better than the State school boys. This is shown in Figure 2: the State boys wipe the floor with the Independent girls. The parents of State boys have real grounds for complaint: over the years 1984 to 1993 the Independent girls have increased as a proportion of Oxford undergraduates from 9 to 18 per cent. This increase has been at the expense of State boys who have *seen their representation* at Oxford decline by a similar amount.

The State boys also perform better than boys from Independent schools, as shown in Figure 3. The problem State boys have when attempting to get into Oxford is the interview. In my experience, the tongue-tied male from a State school has certainly not benefited from the "improvisational, self-expression stuff they do at State schools". The acceptance rate of those who apply is close to 30 per cent for boys from State schools; for *pupils from Independent schools* the acceptance rate is 40 per cent.

State boys do not lack self-confidence once they have got in. The best explanation of the abysmal performance of State girls at Oxford compared with Independent girls is lack of self-confidence. The single-sex background of Independent girls schools and a superior academic environment seem to *equip them to handle Oxford* academically much better than the State girls.

Independent boys' failure to dominate the State boys, despite a superior academic background at school, is a matter of some interest. The self-confidence of State boys is natural: they have always been a part of *Oxford. They are selected from* a large reservoir of talent, so those who scale the heights are, on average, very good indeed.

The State girls who scale the heights are also, on average, potentially very good, but they lack self-confidence (compared with the other three groups) and they share with Independent girls an unreasonable trauma in the intense Oxford finals system.

It has for years been unfashionable to point out that premenstrual syndrome — which affects a good proportion of women in varying degrees — must affect performance in the Oxford finals examination. It is likely that the enormous stress of the exam and PMS interact to lower the average score of women.

At Oxford for most subjects, two years' work is examined in one week. For both sexes this is somewhat of a lottery. Vera Brittain, writing of the post-first-world-war years, makes a sound case. "Should that week coincide with ill-health, family anxiety, or an excruciating love affair, this misfortune is bound to affect the examination results."

That PMS should have been an unfashionable topic for so long is understandable. It was the main point of attack of the opponents of higher education for women in the *Victorian times. The opponents* used ridicule and physiology as their major weapons.

According to the celebrated Dr Maudsley, writing in the *Fortnightly Review* of May 1874, the degeneracy of American women moving into higher education had been brought about by the unequal intellectual struggle with men: "...not a question of two bodies and minds that are in equal physical conditions, but one body and mind capable of sustained and regular hard labour, and of another body and mind which for one quarter of each month during the best years of life is more or less sick and unfit for work". Dr Maudsley was silenced by Dr Elizabeth Garrett Anderson in the *same journal by cogious reasonable* and spirited arguments.

Recent evidence has shown that PMS does affect examination performance; that an examination system is more of a lottery for women than for men. It is not that menstruation makes a significant different in average output over a year, but that some women on particular days are incapacitated. It will make good sense, therefore, to diffuse the schedule of the Oxford examination — and indeed steps in that direction have been taken this year in my own faculty.

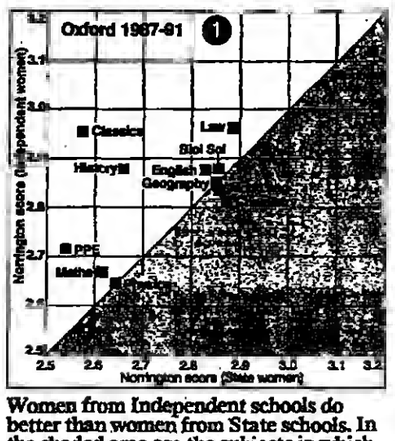
There is a strong likelihood of continuing change at Oxford. First, the university is structured for reform: there exists an equal opportunities committee with a politically *powerful membership and regular* meetings. Second, the undergraduates have an active caucus to correct inequality. I can imagine changes at Oxford in the system of finals and also in the admissions procedure, which is currently undergoing vigorous overhaul.

But what of self-confidence in women and particularly in women from State schools? Do women identify with their subject, college and university, as do men? There is evidence that — on average — they do not: a feeling of being at Oxford by false pretences.

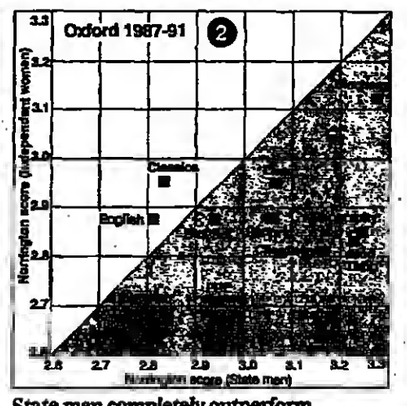
Is it possible that the echoes of the 1870s have not died down? That crude hostility to women, such as that of Dr Maudsley, has left its mark? Research at King's College, Cambridge, suggests that this is so. The problem of women in higher education is a lot more complex than Dr Goodhart's biological theory assumes: students are not brains on stilts.

● *The author is Fellow of Hertford College in engineering science.*

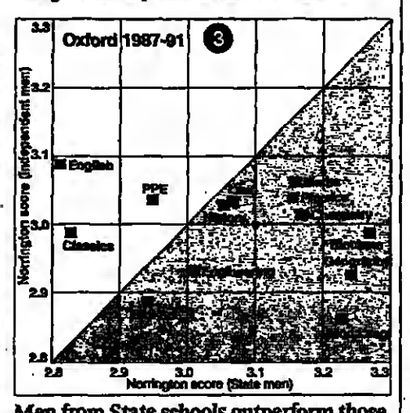
Underachievers? Oxford women students, protesting here about men being admitted to their college, tend to perform less well than men



Women from Independent schools do better than women from State schools. In the shaded area are the subjects in which State women do best; above the line, those in which Independent women do best. The difference is unlikely to be due to educational background since State *men outperform* Independent women.



State men completely outperform Independent women at Oxford. In the shaded area are the subjects in which State men do best; above the line, those in which Independent women do best. Recently the proportion of State men at Oxford has dropped and that of *Independent women has risen.*



Men from State schools outperform those from Independent schools. In the shaded area are the subjects in which State men do best; above the line, those in which Independent men do best. Independent men are markedly superior in English, State men in modern languages, geography and biochemistry.

Aiming high may not be the answer

Students may find Oxbridge hothouses do not suit them

This is the time of year when our Lower Sixth at Marlborough College start thinking about higher education. The academic high-flyers, and some who are not, are already turning their thoughts to Oxford and Cambridge. We have a support system which provides extra teaching for Oxbridge hopefuls, and gets them to widen their academic interests.

We also have a monitoring system, to try to encourage the *strongest candidates*, and discourage those who we feel don't stand much chance.

Some of our pupils are under a *lot of pressure from parents to get* an Oxbridge place. Former pupils also tend to see Oxbridge success as a measure of the school's success. The school is aware of these pressures, and relatively poor Oxbridge results will lead to careful examination of our preparation system.

The question is often raised whether our pupils might be disadvantaged by their expensive education. Although few Oxbridge dons actively discriminate against applicants from independent schools, *they do expect to see a performance* which reflects their level of preparation. Our pupils do not always appreciate this, and approach the entrance exams and interviews in a casual way.

They might well lose the place to someone from a disadvantaged inner-city school who may not know all the answers, but is willing to think hard. To be turned down *by an Oxbridge college can be the* first experience of failure for an academically successful young person, and its effects can be traumatic.

It is not even self-evident that Oxford and Cambridge are the universities on which everyone should set their sights. The emphasis tends to be intellectual rather than vocational, and some students wilt in the hothouse atmosphere.

Being able to select one applicant in four from the academic cream of the nation is not a great inducement for the university to scrutinise course content or teaching methods. There are other universities which have no difficulty in attracting students, especially for humanities and social science courses. These tend to be the ones with the most traditional course structure, but they are often chosen because of their reputation rather than what they have to offer. Those further down the pecking order have to try harder to attract students, by developing more flexible courses and teaching new subjects. They also tend to accept lower A-level grades, but their degrees are not of a lower standard.

If only potential students were able to look objectively at the courses available, and select those which suit them best, regardless of where they happen to be, we would have many more satisfied customers in higher education.

JASPER SELWYN

● *The author is the head of the careers department at Marlborough College.*

CORRECTION

The *Good University Guide* of May 13 had two errors: St Hilda's College, Oxford, has one of the highest proportions of state, not independent, school entrants; and Queen's College, Oxford, guarantees accommodation for all undergraduates.

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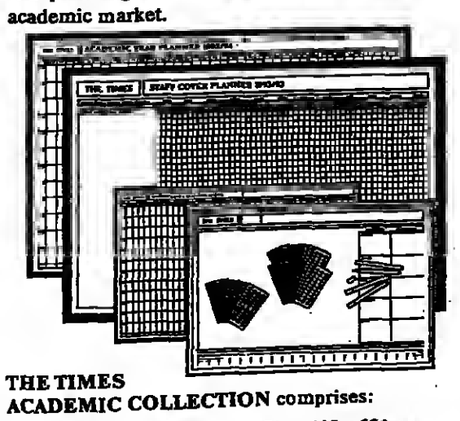

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Nest of mixed fledgelings

Three schools in South Africa believe they have the answer to the racial prejudice endemic there

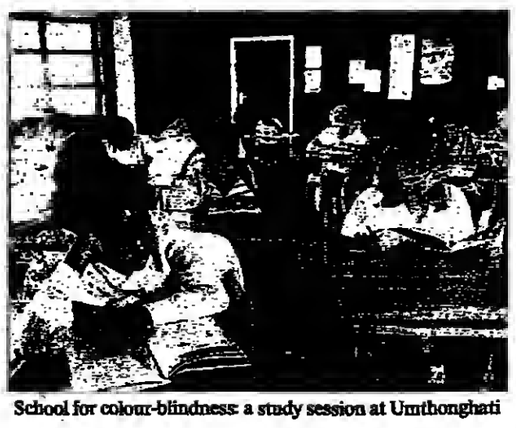
Not often are the South African government and the African National Congress in total accord. But an extraordinary venture in South African education has the unqualified backing of both.

The New Era Schools Trust (Nest) runs three secondary schools, one each in Durban, Johannesburg and Cape Town. Their aim, like that of any good school, is to produce young people with ability, skills, good exam results and personal drive. But Nest also aims for, and claims to achieve, something almost unheard of in South Africa, and rare anywhere else — young people with absolutely no racial prejudice.

The idea is simple, and not new. You mix up children from their first day at school, let them live together and when they leave they will have discovered that racial differences are only skin deep.

Nest selectors unashamedly go for a melting pot mix. The most established school, Umthonghati in Natal, has an almost ideal roll of 30 per cent African (mostly Zulu), 30 per cent Indian (Durban's population is predominantly Indian), 20 per cent white and 20 per cent mixed-race children — half boys, half girls. Teachers are similarly multiracial, and the Xhosa poets are studied along with Keats, and Zulu warriors along with Napoleon. "Nkosi Sikeleli Afrika" is sung at school assembly but the black power salute is frowned upon.

Because Nest does not want children growing up with stereotypical South African images of black people sweeping while white people give orders, most of the chores are done by the children. They weed the lawns, sweep the classrooms, clear the dishes. There are no prefects, there is no top-down discipline, no corporal punishment, no uniform. All the students work in community programmes outside the school (running kindergartens in townships, adult literacy programmes in the evenings, environment clean-ups). The ethos is liberal, dedicated, hardworking.



School for colour-blindness: a study session at Umthonghati

Black children in South Africa outnumber white ones by five to one, and black parents who have heard of Nest want their child to go there. Schooling apart, there is the desperate desire to get one's child out of the violence of the townships and into the haven of boarding school. So numbers of black applicants are overwhelming. But white pupils are hard to come by. Even liberal white parents are understandably cautious. If your local schools get good results, has 20 tennis courts, an Olympic pool and an arts centre, why go for somewhere where little Danny must clean his dormitory and possibly dig the hole for the swimming pool?

The newest school, Zonnebloem, which opened 18 months ago, has not got the mix right yet. The college is in District Six, in the heart of Cape Town but almost unoccupied since the original coloured community was driven out, its houses bulldozed, under the Group Areas Act in the 1970s. The resulting bitterness, boycotts and politicking have so far hampered regeneration and make the area unattractive to white parents.

But Geoff Jacobs, Zonnebloem's headmaster, is optimistic, convinced that white applicants will multiply once white parents see that their children's matriculation results will not be jeopardised and now that the Nest schools can openly declare their existence. Until the abolition of apartheid neither Nest nor *their big business sponsors* who built the schools wanted to attract the attention of a possibly hostile government. *Today Nest* earns approval from almost everyone.

Education has become a red-hot issue. Not only are black schools overcrowded and underfunded, but the constant boycotts of the past ten years have produced the "lost generation" of angry, unemployable youths now busy brandishing AK47s or "cultural weapons". And black children account for nearly 80 per cent of South African youth.

Last year Nest schools had a 100 per cent pass rate at matriculation. That beats even the private white schools and the white church schools, which averaged 90 per cent, and coloured state schools with 65 per cent. Both Nelson Mandela and President de Klerk have expressed the hope that the Nest system will prosper.

But because Nest schools have to cover boarding costs, and because the teacher-child ratio is higher, Nest bursaries are expensive, and recession-hit sponsors find it cheaper to send half-a-dozen black pupils to a formerly white school than to send one to Nest. In fact, a funding crisis has only just been averted by Nest's acceptance of a basic government grant, something unthinkable under apartheid.

Asked what they want for the future, a black pupil answered: "For the ANC to understand that investment, not sanctions, is what we need." A freckle-faced white boy said: "For people to realise that black guys are just the same as white guys. Just as good friends and just as much a pain in the neck." No political correctness there.

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3	Birfolde	Paper,Print	
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6	Cranell Plcr 'A'	Industrial	
7	Mucklow (A&J)	Property	
8	Lloyds	Banks,Disc	
9	ACT Group	Electrical	
10	Trinity Intl	Newspapr,Pub	
11	Yorkshire TV	Leisure	
12	Fairey Group	Industrial	
13	Photo-Me	Industrial	
14	Br Syphon	Industrial	
15	Wilkes (James)	Industrial	
16	Gowrings	Motors,Air	
17	Hadleigh Inds	Industrial	
18	Cook (Wm)	Industrial	
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20	Oxford Inst	Electrical	
21	Young (H)	Industrial	
22	Morrison (W)	Foods	
23	EIS	Industrial	
24	Bellway	Building,Rds	
25	Helical Bar	Property	
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27	Blyvoor	Mining	
28	Critchley	Electrical	
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30	Sheffield Inst	Building,Rds	
31	Dalepak	Foods	
32	Scholl	Industrial	
33	Br Polythene	Industrial	
34	Holders Tech	Industrial	
35	Wld Of Leather	Drapery,Strs	
36	Kleeneze	Industrial	
37	Carlton Comm	Leisure	
38	Wilson Bowdn	Building,Rds	
39	Morland	Breweries	
40	Scapa	Industrial	

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1,577.00	Allied Irish	233	- 3	...	4.8	11.9
1,981.80	Ast New Z	163	- 2	...	5.0	...
10,022.30	Bankamerica	2875 †	-112½	...	...	...
945.40	Bk of Ireland	235	- 3	...	5.9	∞
25.40	Bk Lizmit UK	325	...	17.0	6.5	...
1,689.20	Bank Scotland	146 †	+ 9	4.5	3.9	∞
7,376.00	Barclays	457	+22	15.1	4.3	∞
3.62	Benchmark	2½	...	...	...	...
5.58	Brown Shipley	28	...	...	...	...
4.72	Carlisle	15½	- 1	...	...	...
116.90	Cater Allen	485	- 2	26.0	6.7	...
137.30	Cattles	124½	- 1½	...	4.2	10.6
3,004.80	Chase Manh	1925 †	-43½	...	...	...
6,717.00	Citicorp	1837½	+25	...	...	...
154.00	Close Bros	950	+ 5	...	3.4	15.6
3,590.50	Commerzbk	£112½	-3.5%	...	3.5	...
12,716.10	Deutsche Bk	£267½	+17.8%	...	2.4	...
125.50	First Nat Fin	77	- 3	...	...	...
35,151.40	Fuji Bank Y	1214	+19	...	0.4	65.4
171.60	Gerrard Nat	439	-21	21.5	6.3	∞
4,936.80	HSBC	605	- 9	19.0	3.9	14.5
10,112.20	HSBC HK	598	- 3	19.0	4.0	14.3
596.70	Hambros	337	...	13.0	3.1	14.0
18.80	Joseph (L)	358	...	15.8	5.5	...
22.40	King Shaxson	142	- 1	9.0	8.2	∞
546.30	Kleinwort Ben	417	+18	10.6	4.6	14.5
6,397.50	Lloyds	541	- 7	18.4	4.3	15.5
50.00	Lon Scot Bk	84	- 2	3.0	4.5	16.7
5,407.70	Nat Aust Bk	436	+20½	...	4.7	15.1
7,809.20	Nat West	473	+ 4	17.3	4.6	28.7
459.90	Provident	345	-11	11.4	4.1	14.9
1,901.10	Rensburg	42	...	0.5	1.5	44.0
2,216.50	Ryl Bk Scot	283 †	+10	6.0	5.9	...
999.80	Schroders	955 †	+ 7	...	1.4	19.0
1,711.20	Stand Chart	719	- 4	20.0	3.3	...
2,777.90	TSB	183	+ 1½	8.4	4.4	...
25.40	Union Disc	134	- 5	...	...	...
1,512.90	Warburg SG	705	+32	16.0	3.2	20.9
100.80	do- 6% 'A'	237	+13	...	3.2	...
3,718.60	Wells Fargo	6712½	-112½	...	1.6	...
2,892.80	Westpac	165	- 5	...	4.6	...
17.40	Wintrust	205	...	9.3	5.7	7.9

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4,022.90	Bass	464	-61	18.2	5.2	16.0
304.00	Boddingtons	265	+ ½	7.3	3.4	15.4
202.10	Brakmr (Dir)	385	- 4	6.6	3.0	17.7
30.80	Burtonwd Bw	148	- 7	4.4	3.3	10.8
150.20	Devenish (JA)	284	- 3	7.8	2.3	16.6
17.70	Eldridge P 'A'a	91	+ 1	4.5	2.4	24.1
1,637.90	Fosters Brewing	81½	- 1	...	2.5	7.1
29.40	Fuller Sm 'A'a	378	...	...	2.8	15.9
8,198.00	Grand Met	397	-18	12.3	3.9	12.0
669.70	Greenalls Grp	396	-18	11.7	5.9	12.0
231.00	Greene King	546	+ 2	11.6	5.7	14.5
9,033.50	Guinness	451	-22	...	3.3	16.1
60.00	Harty Hanson	240	- 4	7.9	4.1	13.2
2.79	Heavitree Bw	110	...	3.0	2.3	26.4
3.96	do- 'A' LVa	80	...	3.0	4.5	19.2
361.30	Highland Dist	289	+ 2	6.0	2.6	19.2
89.30	Holt J	257½ †	...	41.0	1.7	...
3.34	Hoskins Brew	38	...	...	...	41.8
346.80	Invergordn Dst	272	+ 5	7.0	3.2	∞
193.10	Macallan-Glen	166	- 3	6.9	0.7	37.3
52.80	Macdn Marti 'A'	268	...	9.8	3.8	12.2
116.80	Marstn,Bdrd	729	...	12.0	1.7	15.8
212.90	Mitchll Thmp	215	- 5	4.9	2.6	13.8
49.30	Matthew Clark	411	...	15.7	4.8	12.5
31.30	Nrwdwn A	258	...	...	3.0	18.6
167.90	Morland	698	+ 9	8.4	2.7	19.5
4.40	Paramounts	8½	- 1	...	2.1	12.5
4,135.90	SA Breweries	615	+6	...	2.4	∞
1,573.40	Scot & Newc	445	-13	16.1	4.5	12.1
228.40	Tamnton Cider	330	- 3	...	2.8	19.5
311.20	Vaux Group	225	-15	9.3	4.1	12.9
90.20	Wetherspoon (J)	288	+ 4	...	2.1	21.3
2,145.30	Whitbread 'a'	475	+ 6	...	4.8	11.6
152.50	do- 'B'	430	+55	...	2.4	23.0
344.70	Wolverhmptn D	523	-51	11.4	2.7	14.6
14.00	Young 'A'	483	...	14.5	3.3	∞

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22.00	Allens	89	- 1	...	6.2	10.8
145.70	Amec	92	- 3	3.0	4.1	17.0
2.31	Anglia Sec	7	+ ½	...	...	...
47.50	Ashtenda	25	+ 5	4.1	2.5	28.2
372.50	Atkwoods	118	- 2	5.0	5.4	16.8
1,193.00	BPB Ind	242	- 5	...	2.0	21.0
34.50	Baggeridge Brk	87	...	3.1	4.5	20.0
2.98	Bailey (Bcn) Cm	28½	...	0.5	...	...
17.50	Barcoe	94	+ 6	1.2	1.2	17.1
254.20	Barratt Devs	147	+ 2½	2.0	1.7	16.4
198.30	BeCWest	403 †	+ 7	...	3.7	23.3
4.44	Bellwinch	27	...	...	...	...
321.40	Berkeley Gp	419	+ 1	...	1.8	28.9
11.70	Bett Bros	79	+ 8	...	...	3.2
15.80	Blackwds	62	-12	1.0	2.0	∞
1,174.50	Blue Circle	253	- 5	11.2	5.6	∞
73.60	Bost (Henry)	203	+ 3	5.9	2.8	12.5
26.70	Brockhm PLC	94	...	4.0	6.1	22.7
20.47	Br Dredging	119	+10	5.2	5.6	18.2
16.43	BrE Prestige	69 †	...	1.5	2.2	...
436.00	Bryant	149	- 2	4.6	4.1	31.7
28.20	CALA	70	+ 2	2.3	...	...
709.70	CRH	265	- 6	...	3.3	16.0
2.04	Calderwd Hty	34	+ 1	...	...	...
74.30	Costain	34	...	...	...	...
29.90	Countrywide	131	- 1	4.1	3.9	38.1
50.50	Cwn Nicholson	66	+ 4	6.0	...	...
12.10	Cussins	65	...	...	...	...
0.75	Dantona	1½	...	...	...	...
10.00	Dilmond Hldgs	19	...	0.5	3.3	...
44.30	Epwin	225 †	...	8.8	3.8	19.1
25.10	Evtt	47	+ 2	0.5	0.9	...
33.20	Ewe Groupe	330	...	...	3.5	12.7
186.40	Evered Barton	51½	- ½	2.0	4.9	14.2
7.21	Exploriana	4½	...	...	...	...
9.04	Freeman Gps	131 †	- 2	...	4.5	21.0
30.40	Galliford	41	- 1	4.5	...	10.5
1.70	Gibbs & Dandy	63	...	...	...	...
85.00	Glasgow (MJ)	85½ †	+52	12.7	1.9	13.8
222.80	Hewden-Stuart	211½	+ 2½	9.2	3.3	∞
12.90	Select Appts	6	- ½	...	...	...
111.00	Serco Gp	965	- 5	14.0	1.8	26.7
15.30	Sherwd Cmpa	250 †	-30	...	3.5	∞
53.90	Sketchley	93	- 1	3.0	4.1	∞
76.30	Warner Howrd	322	+12	6.8	2.5	...
13.40	Welpac	30	...	0.6	2.5	...
21.20	Wills Gp	22	- 1	...	6.0	30.1

BUSINESS SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price Wkly (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
655.80	ADT	555	-20	...	...	∞
9.13	Adam & Harvey	23.5	...	11.0	6.5	3.3
5.67	Air London	64 †	- 2	...	6.8	7.9
3.02	African Lakes	44	...	3.0	5.7	...
190.70	Anglo Sec	168	- 1	3.3	3.9	∞
971.00	BET Ord	104	+ 3	...	7.8	15.2
22.40	BKB Rcs	93	+ 2	4.5	8.5	...
74.60	BPP	299	...	8.0	3.5	15.9
59.00	Barbour Index	235	...	7.2	3.0	17.4
17.10	Bensteed	70 †	- 1	0.7	4.4	∞
57.80	Brk Data Mgt	238	+ 3	...	5.1	19.8
2.55	Broadcastle	16	+ 1	...	...	12.7
8.53	Brooks Service	71	+ 1	...	...	...
46.90	CRT Gp	89	...	2.4	3.4	10.2
81.70	Capita Group	173	...	...	1.3	9.0
31.00	Cadmr Plc	39½	- 2	0.3	1.6	15.0
45.30	Chilltern Capital	50	- ½	...	...	...
10.10	Christie	43	...	...	...	...
779.30	Chubb Sec	279	- 3	...	1.3	30.8
2.76	Comsca	43 †	- 2	...	4.4	10.7
5.13	Corp Services	17½	- ½	...	...	...
13.90	Dest	91	+ 7	3.3	4.5	10.3
214.20	Davis Service	211 †	- 4	...	4.5	∞
5.05	DW Tech	94	...	4.3	5.7	10.8
26.80	Gardiner	25	-1½	0.6	3.3	17.3
8.58	Gardner (DC)	36	- 2	...	...	...
914.60	Hays	227	- 1	4.6	2.3	22.3
121.80	Hogg Robinsn	176	+17	6.3	4.6	13.2
23.80	Holmes Protectn	54	- 1	...	...	3.3
6,010.20	Hsehld Whamp	173	+ 1	...	5.7	∞
322.40	ISS B DKr	£125	+21½	...	0.9	17.6
2,863.40	Incheape	356	+13	...	3.1	19.3
165.90	Johnson Clean	227	- 1	25.7	3.9	∞
76.10	Lep	8½	...	...	...	...
22.90	Mike Gp	220	+30	2.7	1.6	18.1
734.70	Mangower	974	-35	...	...	...
27.00	Michael Page	46½	+ 2	1.0	4.3	19.7
12.00	Penman	254	-14	...	1.0	64.3
2.43	Prime Peoples	3	+ ½	...	...	...
58.20	Proudfoot Alex	94 †	...	12.0	10.6	∞
40.00	RCO	774	...	13.0	4.6	12.5
9.59	REA	113	...	4.0	4.5	...
43.50	Reed Executive	85	- 2	...	...	...
28.00	Reliance Sec	125	+10	...	4.5	12.6
1,801.10	Rentokil	185	-11	2.3	1.6	20.0
14.70	Rolfe & Nelsn	260	...	8.3	3.0	17.3
1,080.00	Salvesen (C)	375	- 1	7.0	2.3	20.7
1.89	Scot Pickfrd	70	...	...	3.3	8.3
59.90	Securiguard	282	+107	9.4	4.0	15.5
12.90	Select Appts	6	- ½	...	...	...
111.00	Serco Gp	965	- 5	14.0	1.8	26.7
15.30	Sherwd Cmpa	250 †	-30	...	3.5	∞
53.90	Sketchley	93	- 1	3.0	4.1	∞
76.30	Warner Howrd	322	+12	6.8	2.5	...
13.40	Welpac	30	...	0.6	2.5	...
21.20	Wills Gp	22	- 1	...	6.0	30.1

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price Wkly (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
574.40	Allied Colloids	219	- 9	5.9	3.3	17.4
376.50	Amersham	664	- 4	12.5	3.4	24.6
32.20	Anglo Ind	3½	...	0.4	...	...
5,090.60	BASF Dm	8900	-130	...	7.8	...
265.20	BTR	283	- 2	0.5	4.6	20.7
6,774.10	Bayer DM50	£103	-24.9%	...	3.0	18.9
76.70	Biagden	165	-13	9.5	7.2	17.8
68.80	Brent Chemi	102	-28	7.4	9.1	∞
142.80	Br Bio-Tech	400	-15	...	...	...
14.60	Caird Gp	25½	...	1.2	6.5	∞
39.10	Canning (W)	138	...	7.2	6.0	15.8
2,073.20	Courtaulds	517	-32	13.0	2.1	14.0
344.50	Croda	263	-10	...	3.7	17.2
14.60	Doeflex	137	...	4.6	4.5	10.5
102.70	Ellis & Everard	205	+ 8	7.0	4.3	18.7
7.93	Euro Colour	26½	+ 2	0.6	2.1	...
84.60	Halstead (J)	285	...	...	3.0	14.3
398.40	Hickson	240	- 9	8.0	4.3	∞
5,098.60	Hoechst	96½	-1.75	...	3.9	...
182.90	Holliday Chemi	214	- 1	0.5	3.9	10.7
9,063.30	ICI	1263	...	55.0	5.4	31.4
1,164.80	Laporte	607	-19	19.5	4.0	16.7
115.80	Leigh	183	- 1	7.8	5.3	14.9
7.03	MTM	7½	- ½	...	...	...
3,466.00	Norsk Hydro	168½	+ 3½	...	1.2	∞
102.20	Paterson Zoch	419	...	11.4	3.4	18.1
85.10	do- 'A'	370	...	11.4	3.9	16.0
122.30	Pirbrt	258	- 9	6.0	2.9	17.4
32.50	Polvrdr	211	+ 1	3.6	2.1	22.6
18.10	Sutcliffe Speak	107	+ 1½	...	...	...
107.20	Wardle Storeys	434	- 1	16.0	4.6	17.4
31.80	Wkshire R	450	...	17.0	4.7	15.4
181.10	Yorks Chem	398	...	...	3.4	21.3
245.40	Yule Catto	289	...	5.9	2.6	17.6

DRAPERY, STORES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price Wkly (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
23.40	Alexon	91	- 4	3.0	4.6	...
94.30	Amber Day	81	+ 4	3.1	4.8	21.9
902.30	Argos Plc	304	+ 1½	...	2.9	20.9
263.00	Ashley (Laura)	113	+ 2	4.1	0.1	...
227.40	Asprey's	285	...	...	2.1	25.1
6.11	Austin Reed	233 †	...	5.0	2.7	∞
64.80	Beattie (J) 'A'	140 †	...	0.0	5.4	∞
45.20	Bentalls	109 †	...	1.9	2.5	...
257.60	Bhmrwear	253	-12	...	6.0	34.9
10.30	Blacks Leis	32	+ 3	1.2	...	6.0
374.40	Body Shop	200	+ 4	1.7	1.1	∞
70.90	Brown & Jackson	15½	...	...	0.6	∞
259.90	Brown (N)	356	+ 6	7.0	3.3	∞
1,174.70	Burton	84	- 3½	...	3.0	...
23.80	Cantors	143	...	...	3.5	19.0
38.10	Church	353	- 2	12.4	4.4	31.4
24.80	Clinton Cards	146	...	4.3	3.0	17.6
1,397.60	Coats Vyella	234	+ 1	...	3.9	30.4
18.40	Colourwhole	91	...	...	...	15.4
122.20	Courts Furnish	501	...	3.0	1.2	25.1
2.19	Crown Eyes	137	...	...	2.5	6.4
1,734.50	Dalgty Farm Ind	105	...	...	3.3	16.7
83.50	Dewhirst (JJ)	67½	+ 3	1.0	1.9	21.7
837.10	Dixons Gp	213	- 1	0.6	3.3	25.0
680.10	Dunhill	402	...	7.7	3.4	13.9
9.74	ERA Gp	17	- 2	...	...	...
5.83	Elys (Wimbldn)	485	...	10.6	4.5	16.2
11.60	Essex Furn	101	...	...	3.7	17.1
155.60	Etam	238	- 1	6.9	5.7	21.3
436.50	Fine Art Dev	549	+ 1	12.7	3.0	∞
2.17	Fired Earth Tiles	38	...	...	...	...
13.30	Furnbuster	498	...	12.5	2.1	10.4
9.12	French Connec	57½	+ 6½	...	0.3	∞
5.51	Gabbitas	47	+ 3	3.0	...	9.4
17.70	Gent SR	40	...	2.0	5.1	14.4
10.10	Goldsmiths Gp	48	+ 1	0.5	0.0	∞
158.50	GUS	2913	...	40.0	1.7	23.5
3,921.90	do- 'A'	1625	...	40.0	1.1	12.9
4.19	Hampden Grps	35	...	...	3.0	17.3
86.90	Harbstone	30	+ 3	4.8	7.3	5.1
29.20	Helene Plc	27½	+ 1½	3.0	10.7	∞
2.43	Heritages	55	+10	...	...	...
4.57	Honeysuckles	60	- 1	...	2.1	8.5
10.00	Hse of Lerose	192	...	10.5	6.7	∞
7.32	Jaeger Wrt	77	+ 1	2.0	...	...
2,955.00	Kingfisher	501	-18	...	2.9	19.0
22.90	Leslie Wise Gp	66	- ½	4.0	7.6	13.6
106.20	Liberty	640 †	...	7.2	1.4	75.4
366.70	Lloyds Chem	311	+ 1	5.5	2.2	12.2
779.10	MFI	134	- 3	...	2.2	13.7
9,203.50	Marks Spencer	336	-13	...	5.1	12.5
276.90	Menzies (John)	498	- 4	16.0	2.5	16.6
28.20	Moss Bros	169 †	- 2	3.5	4.1	∞
607.00	Next	164½	- 3	2.5	1.9	∞
3.00	Oliver (G)	36	...	...	...	...
111.80	Oriflame Intl	217	+ 3	...	3.3	14.1
79.10	Pentos	55	- 2½	1.5	3.5	11.3
111.60	QS Hldgs	26½	- 3	5.1	2.1	20.0
98.60	Raisers Group	35½	+ 1½	2.4	8.9	...
14.30	Rhino Grps	28	...	...	...	...
25.40	Rosebys	135	...	...	4.0	16.3
168.60	Sherwood Gp	166	+ 2	2.6	2.0	∞
1,491.90	Sears	89 †	- 3	4.4	4.9	8.1
1,166.30	Smith WH 'A'	428	-15	13.4	3.9	15.1
1.40	Specialsrvs	9	...	...	...	...
812.30	Storehouse	199	- 6	...	3.5	29.4
104.20	T & S Stores	165	+ 6	5.9	3.5	12.1
68.10	Tie Rack	132	+ 1	...	1.0	21.5
111.20	Time Products	211	- 5	7.5	4.6	∞
9.40	Usher (Frankie)	42	...	...	8.5	7.3
2.69	Wensums	36 †	...	...	1.0	10.8
352.60	Wickes	115	...	...	4.9	11.0
672	Wld of Leathers	58	- 5	...	...	...
161.50	Wyevale	197	...	...	6.3	...
5.73	Yes-clothes	3½	...	...	...	3.7

ELECTRICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price Wkly (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
232.60	ACT Group	165	- 7	4.5	3.4	16.2
34.60	Acula	230	+ 1	...	3.1	20.0
53.10	Acorn Compu	83	- 3	...	...	42.1
48.90	Admiral	434	...	5.4	1.6	18.4
59.20	Alba	128	- 1	4.7	4.6	16.9
9.99	Alphameric	37	...	...	...	...
181.60	Armstrd	31½	- 2	0.4	...	...
16.20	App Helsa	78	- 1	...	...	...
5.92	Atlas	10	- 1	...	...	...
175.40	Autor	57	+ 1	...	...	...
57.00	Beales Hunter	275	...	...	9.2	4.2
5.83	Bennett & Fobes	5½	...	...	...	...
1,289.40	BICC	385	-17	19.2	0.3	26.1
131.00	Bick	484	...	9.2	2.4	18.8
468.60	Borland	160	...	...	...	...
509.60	Bowthorpe	314	+ 2	6.3	2.3	∞
25,177.00	BT	407	- 7½	...	4.0	23.1
2.21	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	8½	...	0.1	1.5	...
47.30	Burndhll	138	+ 1	3.0	2.2	21.8
7,754.00	Cable Wireless	714	- 5	13.2	1.3	22.0
33.40	Chloride	14	...	...	...	...
43.00	CML Microw	251	...	...	2.4	36.5
16.00	Compir People	115	...	...	0.5	0.7
297.80	Cray Elect	142	- 3	...	0.4	12.0
37.90	Critchley	225	+ 4	...	2.4	22.9
13.50	Dale	89	- 6	4.1	6.4	0.6
790.30	Delta	534	-12	...	3.3	22.0
12.40	Dewhurst Ele	265	...	...	2.7	12.1
128.50	Domino	922	-10	7.2	1.8	17.1
43.30	Dowding Mitc	57	...	2.5	5.5	18.7
66.40	Dynics	1038	...	...	1.1	25.3
818.00	Electrocomponents	391	+ 5	7.0	2.6	21.2
4.30	El Data Grp	55	...	...	1.3	15.2
20.90	Electron House	91	...	2.3	3.0	20.7
27.60	Emess	26	- 3½	0.1	0.5	...
254.20	Eurotherm	579	...	8.0	1.7	38.4
38.00	FKI	133	...	2.3	2.3	25.8
512.30	Farnell Elect	384 †	+ 8	6.2	2.0	∞
4.06	Feedback	48	- 2	...	...	...
125.70	Fercomt	139	...	...	...	...
28.50	First Tech	192	...	...	...	...
16.40	Forward Gps	225	- 8	...	1.8	∞
5.44	Forward Tech	19	- 1	...	...	...
8,603.70	GEC	315½	- ½	9.0	2.6	16.7
100.00	Grasby	158	- 2	10.0	8.6	∞
1.46	Hickstrs	39	...	...	1.6	12.7
5.86	HSTEC	130 †	-10	...	3.0	8.4
67.90	Jones Stroud	375	...	4.0	1.1	16.8
2.57	Kembrey	0	...	0.1	9.2	3.4
114.50	Kenwood App	332	...	...	3.0	16.5
17.10	Kewill Sys	143	...	...	...	7.2
17.40	Kode	187	+ 5	5.5	3.1	22.2
6.60	Laser-Scan	41	-15	...	...	...
56.50	LINAC	115	-24	...	...	...
16.20	Lec Brands	268	...	...	9.0	4.2

FINANCE, LAND

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price Wkly (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
30.90	Aitken Hume	51	...	0.5	...	32.6
14.40	BWD	84	+ 7	...	4.5	15.1
29.80	Baltic Plc	84	...	1.0	1.5	∞
352.00	Caledonia	425	- 3	14.4	4.2	16.2
35.00	Camellia	1400	...	27.0	2.6	11.8
58.90	Candover	264	+14	10.2	4.9	18.7
32.60	Flexechb	95	...	...	...	9.4
234.50	Gover	289	+ 3	...	5.2	9.0
42.60	Ivory Sime	147	...	...	5.4	15.4
1.67	LIT	3½	...	...	...	...
0.66	Lightship	13 ½	...	...	...	...
200.00	Lon Forfaiting	200	- 1	8.4	5.4	14.1
11.60	Manahin	57	...	...	...	...
11.10	Nat Home Loan	10½	- ½	...	...	...
17.50	Newmarket	49	...	...	...	...
54.00	Rathbone Brs	234	+ 2

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PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

PROPERTY

Bumper profits expected to fuel power struggles

BY MARTIN WALLER
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

■ Future dividend increases from the electricity companies are likely to be threatened by the expected tightening of the regulatory screw

FRESH ammunition will be added to the heated debate over the profitability of privatised industries when the 14 electricity companies in England and Wales start to report bumper profits for 1992-3 this week.

But City analysts looking forward to dividend increases of six times, or more, the rate of inflation for the last financial year admit they are working in the dark in attempting to look further forward.

A critical review of the regulatory regime that governs the power industry is now overdue, apparently bogged down in detailed negodations with the 12 distributors and in the sheer complexity of the subject, the rules relating to the supply of electricity.

The review of the supply business, the sale of electricity to customers as against distribution through the companies' wires, is due in early summer. This is to allow time for a reference to the Mooopolies and Mergers Commission if the various parties cannot reach agreement.

But an MMC reference could take as much as nine months, so a full settlement or a decision to refer must be made by the end of oext month if the deadline of April 1, 1994, for the new arrangements can be reached.

The Office of Electricity Regulation (Offer)expects to meet the necessary deadlines but has no clear date for publication of the review. Offer has imposed a strict ban on any comment by the industry to outsiders, apparently annoyed at previous leaks during negotiations. But the companies say privately that the logistical difficulties of reaching separate agreements between the regulator and all 12 companies, given that the circumstances of each are quite different, suggest that agreement could come late.

Nigel Hawkins, utilities analyst at Hoare Govett, the broker, agrees that there appear to have been problems in reaching accord. He expects the main thrust of the review to be the production of a yardstick that would allow companies that shopped around for power and passed savings on to the consumer to benefit, while less efficient purchasers would find themselves penalised.

The supply side accounts for only about one pound in ten of the distributors' profits. But the outcome of the review will be studied closely for any implications for the next industry review — into the core distribution business. This is due a year after the supply review and, given the continuing row over excess profits, a sharp tightening of the regulatory screw is widely expected. Such a move would make the kind of dividend increases already promised by some of the more go-ahead distributors impossible to achieve without a serious reduction in dividend cover.

Forecasts from NatWest Securities, the broker, suggest that the distributors and the two large generators, National Power and PowerGen, should easily manage pre-tax profit increases of 15 per cent for last year. The 12 distributors, NatWest believes, should report a total of £1.69 billion in taxable profits, up from £1.47 billion the previous year, as the benefits of hefty cost-saving programmes continue to outweigh easily the negligible effects of the recession on their core businesses.

Combined profits from the two generators should reach £1 billion for the first time, CNW forecasts, an increase from £873 million.

Scottish Power, which as an integrated electricity generator, supplier and distributor is operating on a different basis to those companies in England and Wales, has already set the tone for the reporting season with a 14 per cent pre-tax profit increase announced on Thursday. But the company is financially constrained from the kind of dividend increases on offer elsewhere in the industry, and the rise was limited to 10 per cent.

In the bag: Sir Alistair Grant should have a basketful of cheer, but analysts will look for signs of pressure on margins

Argyll Group looks ready to ring up a healthy rise in annual profits

A HEALTHY advance in annual profits is likely at **Argyll Group**, the Safeway to Presto and Lo-Cost supermarkets group headed by Sir Alistair Grant. The figures will be driven by new store openings, organic growth and a useful pick-up in operating margins.

Nick Bubb of Morgan Stanley, the American securities house, is looking for final pre-tax profits, due tomorrow, of £418 million for the 53-week period, compared with £365 million. Market forecasts range from £410 million to £420 million. A net dividend of between 10.75p and 11.04p (9.75p) is predicted.

But in a sector under a cloud from discounters, weaker supermarket operators fighting back and the need to cut costs, analysts will be scanning Argyll's results for news on current trading, its view on the future and any signs of margin pressures.

Argyll's Safeway stores, which provide about 85 per cent of group profits, are expected to show comparable sales about 3.5 per cent higher, with the sales trend moving up in the second half of the year, helped by store improvements and promotional schemes. Current comparable sales have probably fallen to around 1.5-2 per cent as competition increases.

REPORTING THIS WEEK

TODAY

Carlton Communications, the media conglomerate, is expected to report first-half profits ahead to £54 million, up from £49.4 milliop previously, according to UBS. Market forecasts range from £53 million to £58 million. The best performances are likely to come from video and sound products and video cassette production, both of which will see healthy trading performances, helped by a firm dollar. Video production will benefit from a full cootribution from Pickwick, the video and budget music distributor.

However, the taxable profits improvement will be restricted by lower interest receipts and an initial loss at Carlton Television. The interim dividend is likely to be raised to between 7p and 7.7p (6.7p).

Interims: Carlton Communications, National Home Loans, Radio Clyde Holdings.
Finals: Hi-Tec Sports, Jarvis Porter, South Staffordshire Water
Economic statistics: Balance of trade with countries outside the EC (April).

TOMORROW

A recovery in the American music business should help **Thorn EMI**, Britain's biggest music company, to report an advance in full-year pre-tax profits to between £330 and £335 milliop (£255.1 million). Analysts said Thorn was likely to announce a total dividend of between 30.1p and 31.7p (30.1p). Thorn's music division will be boosted by a 26 per cent rise in general US music industry sales in the fourth quarter of 1992, compared with 1991, while operating profits in rentals were expected to drop £6 million to £118 million.

Interims: Cosalt, Fairline Boats, Metro Radio, Tunstall Group.
Finals: Argyll Group, Betterware, Fleming Euro Fledgeling Inv, Prime People, Readicut Intl, Shires Investment, Thorn EMI.
Economic statistics: Capital expenditure and stockbuilding (first quarter — provisional), UK output, income and expenditure (first quarter).

WEDNESDAY

Smith New Court expects **Courtaulds**, the paints and chemicals group, to report final pre-tax profits of £190 million (£186.3 million). Market forecasts range from £185 million to £200 million. Smith predicts a net dividend of 13.5p (13p).

North West Water is expected to report final pre-tax profits of £247 million, up from £230.1 million last time, according to UBS. Market forecasts range from £245 million to £248 million. UBS is looking for a rise in net dividend to 21.5p (19.67p).

Interims: Capital Radio, China Investment & Development Fund, Countryside Properties, Perpetual, Whessoe.
Finals: Bank of Nova Scotia (D), Casket, Courtaulds, Fleming High Income Inv Trust (4D), Monks Inv Trust, North West Water, Plysu, Rolfe & Nolan Computer Services, Wamford Investments.
Economic statistics: Construction orders (March — provisional).

THURSDAY

Sandy Morris at NatWest Securities expects **Babcock International**, the engineering group, to report a drop in final pre-tax profits to £34 million (£50.1 million). A reduced dividend of 2p (3.15p) is predicted. NatWest says the outlook for Rosyth Dockyard remains unclear.

Nikko, the Japanese securities bouse, is looking for **National Power** to generate full year pre-tax profits ahead 13 per cent to £581 million (£514 milliop). Market forecasts range from £572 million to £595 million. Nikko predicts a 16.5 per cent increase in the net dividend to 10.6p (9.1p).

Interims: Apollo Metals, Davenport Vernon, Dobson Park Industries, Greyfriars Inv Co, Morland & Co, J Smart & Co.
Finals: Babcock Intl, City of London PR, Gartmore Value Inv, Jackson Group, Macdonald Martin Distilleries, Mercury Asset Management, Mid Kent Holdings, National Power, Quadrant Group, Southnews, South West Water, Toshiba Corp.
Economic statistics: Engineering sales and orders at current and constant prices (March), new vehicle registrations (April), energy trends (March).

FRIDAY

Interims: Holmes Protection (Q1), Scottish Investment Trust.
Finals: Castings, Cheam Group, William Cook, East Surrey Holdings, Europa Minerals, Kelsey Industries, NEC Corp, TR Property Inv Tst.
Economic statistics: CBI monthly trends enquiry (May).

Philip Pangalos

Touche faces rough ride over BCCI

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE liquidators of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International are braced for a stormy time as they meet the bank's creditors at Wembley Arena on Thursday.

Creditors will be critical of Touche Ross, the liquidators, of the Bank of England, and of the size of the compensation scheme on offer from BCCI's majority shareholder, the government of Abu Dhabi.

They will query the size of Touche's fees — $133 million for the English side of the liquidation in the 18 months to January — and why it has not paid out a dividend. The liquidators will try to explain why there is a $12.4 million black hole in BCCI's worldwide assets, which were valued at $14 billion in July 1991.

Touche has received 350 written questions from creditors, most of them covering the same subjects: the liquidators' fees; when creditors are likely to receive a dividend; the $1.7 billion Abu Dhabi compensation agreement; lidgation against the auditors and other parties, and the treatment of BCCI staff.

The liquidators will take questions from the floor, but Christopher Morris, a joint liquidator, said it will be easier to answer questions if they are submitted in writing first. Touche has produced a book of answers and will "shy away from taking questions which are covered in the book".

The Abu Dhabi compensation scheme, combined with the proceeds of liquidation and any from litigation against the auditors and other parties is likely to raise 30p to 40p in the pound; seen as unacceptable by many creditors.

Mr Morris will warn creditors that the only alternative to the Abu Dhabi compensation agreement is "litigation going beyond the end of this century". He will tell them that without the agreement there will be so many claims between the liquidators and Abu Dhabi that it will tie up the rest of the estate, including funds recovered so far.

The main purpose of the meeting is to elect a five-strong creditors' committee to oversee the work of the liquidators. Mr Morris said the Electoral Reform Society is handling the voting, which will be calculated by the value of claims against BCCI rather than by number of creditors. Results are expected about a week after the meeting.

Although much of the payout depends on the Abu Dhabi scheme and Abu Dhabi is BCCI's biggest creditor, it is not seeking a platform at the meeting. A group of creditors is opposing the compensation scheme. Its appeal against the Luxembourg court's approval of the plan begins on Wednesday.

NCM fights UK decision to withdraw exports credit cover

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

NCM Credit Insurance, the world's biggest private credit insurer, which is tomorrow expected to report a handsome increase in profits for 1992, will continue to press the government oot to withdraw from reinsuring political risk on export credit.

When the government sold its short-term export credit business to the Dutch NCM Group in December 1991, it undertook to offer reinsurance for political risk for a three-year transitional period.

But NCM, and many British exporters, have established that the private sector is unable to take over political risk. With the government scheduled to withdraw oext year, companies are already running into difficulties concerning future exports.

Harry Groen, the NCM chairman, told *The Times* that he has been in regular discussions with the government over the reinsurance issue. He said "a more permanent facility" was essential. However, the government has so far refused to budge, despite coming under attack oo the question in parliament.

NCM, whose headquarters are in Amsterdam, welcomed the opportunity to acquire ECGD's short-term business as it had effectively exhausted its home market in the Netherlands, where it insures credit equivalent to 20 per cent of the gross national product. Mr Groen said: "The move allowed NCM to create its own geographical footprint." The group oow encompasses the Netherlands, Britain, Sweden and Norway. It is also moving into Belgium and has a subsidiary in the United States.

Cross-border co-operation in credit insurance became inevitable with the development of the single market, and particularly following the European Community's second non-life directive.

Mr Groen is, however, concerned that the European playing field is not level and that Britain must not become the only Community country without a permanent facility to support political risk.

Recent signs of greater government interest in promoting export business have encouraged NCM, but ministers have also been keen to point out that exports are running at record levels, suggesting that the credit insurance uncertainties are not hampering trade.

Mr Groen said there was considerable resistance among the Community member states to the idea of transferring export credit responsibility to Brussels, even though a "Euro rate" for such credit already existed in the short term end of the business.

He said that NCM is, however, working with the commission on harmonising political and commercial short term business and expects "significant developments" in the next six months.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 40

YAUD
(b) A mare, usually applied to an old mare, also loosely to an old or worn-out horse (associated with *jade*), from the Old Norse *jalda*, poetic word for mare: "They sneered at her as the grey yaud wha'd be better rode wi' martingale nor snaffle."

BISONTINE
(a) Pertaining to or resembling a *bison*, adapted from the Latin *bisontinus*, after *elephantinus* elephantine, etc.: "They belong to the same sub-family, Cattle (Bovinae), but are members of the Bisontine group."

MACKALLOW
(b) Something handed over to a foster-parent along with a child for the benefit of the latter, from the Gaelic *macaladh* fostering: "The said father and foster father giving between them of mackallow guddis in donation to the said bairn at Beltane thereafter the value of two hundred merks of ky."

SKAZ
(c) First-person narrative in which the author assumes a persona, from the Russian: "Michael Zoshchenko is a more narrative writer: he is also an ornamentalist, but his ornamentalism is a purely colloquial skaz, which proceeds from Leskov."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
White deflected the black queen with 1 Qxg7! and after 1 ... Qxg7 2 Re1+ Bxe6 3 Rxe6 is checkmate.

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Firms seek earlier 'work start' grants

BY MARTIN FLANAGAN

SMALL businesses will tomorrow urge the government to attack unemployment by shortening the qualifying out-of-work period for its "work start" grants, announced in the Budget.

The Federation of Small Businesses, which has 58,000 members, is meeting Baroness Denton, the small firms minister, to press for a reduction in the time workers have to have beeo unemployed before the "work start" subsidy is paid to firms recruiting them.

Under the plan, for which four regional pilot schemes are due to be up and running by July, employers will receive £60 a week initially for each long-term unemployed person they take on. Bot the definition of "long-term" unemployment will vary between two years and four years, depending on the region.

Stephen Alambritis, parliamentary officer of the Federation of Small Businesses, said that small businesses believed firms should receive the grants when recruiting people who have been unemployed for six months or more.

He said: "Two years is far too long, as people by then have lost a lot of their skills and motivation. It needs a shorter period before the subsidy bites, both for employers and the individual." Mr Alambritis said the qualifying time was a bigger issue than the actual amount of Whitehall handout.

The delegation to meet Baroness Denton at the House of Lords will also suggest that to cut red tape and engender business interest in the scheme, relevant employees should deal with their own tax and insurance affairs, rather than the company.

The federation says between 1989 and 1991 small businesses in Britain created 350,000 jobs.

An employment department spokeswoman confirmed that the four "work start" pilot schemes will be in Tyneside, Devon and Cornwall, East Kent and South London. Local Training Enterprise Councils will administer the first two; the employment service will run the schemes in the south east of the country. The spokeswoman said the £60-a-week payable under the scheme is available for six months. For the second six months it is reduced to £30 a week. In all, 1,000 grants will be made.

Denton: to meet delegates

Maxwell US bid deadline extended

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

THE deadline for initial bids for the late Robert Maxwell's American assets has been put back a fortnight.

Candidates were due to be whittled down by JP Morgan, the New York bank, this week. Instead, the bank will be supplying contenders with more information about the financial health of Macmillan Inc, the publisher, and the Official Airlines Guide (OAG), the two largest assets of Maxwell Communication Corporation.

Reed Elsevier offered $425 million for OAG and is currently seeking government approvals for the deal. But Reed could still lose the deal to a higher offer.

Price Waterhouse, overseeing the sales for Maxwell creditors, hopes the sales will raise at least $1.2 billion. But Macmillan Inc has taken a sharp downturn and earnings could fall 38 per ceot this year, to $38 million, on sales of $682 million.

Morgan has received a stream of offers. They include K-III Communications, the magazine publisher backed by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the buyout specialists; Walt Disney and Paramount Communications; and Robert Bass, the Texas billionaire.

Mr Bass has already made one run at the group. Six mooths ago, he offered $1.2 billion for Macmillan Inc and OAG, less than half the $2.6 billion Mr Maxwell paid for Macmillan alone in 1988.

Total debts and claims against Maxwell Communications Inc are believed to be between $3.1 billion and $3.6 billion.

Maxwell: paid $2.6bn

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gro red yld
	SHORTS (under 5 years)				
1,100	Treas 12¼% 1993	101	-[illegible]	12.38	5.63
600	Fund 6% 1993	100	...	6.00	5.85
1,065	Treas 13¾% 1993	103[illegible] xd	-[illegible]	13.23	5.69
2,100	Treas 8½% 1994	101[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.34	5.80
550	Treas 14½% 1994	106[illegible]	-[illegible]	13.62	5.79
1,100	Exch 13½% 1994	106[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.63	5.79
1,900	Treas 10% 1994	104[illegible] 1	-[illegible]	9.60	5.88
1,240	Exch 12½% 1994	107[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.61	6.05
1,900	Treas 9% 1994	104	-[illegible]	8.65	6.16
2,350	Treas 12% 1995	108[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.02	6.22
214	Gas 3% 1990-95	95[illegible]	-[illegible]	3.14	5.40
2,500	Exch 10¼% 1995	107[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.52	6.44
840	Treas 12¾% 1995	114	-[illegible]	11.18	6.55
770	Treas 14% 1996	117[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.93	6.80
1,150	Treas 15¼% 1996	121[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.51	6.83
800	Exch 13¼% 1996	116[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.35	6.94
3,409	Conv 10% 1996	109[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.16	6.97
1,280	Treas 13¼% 1997	119[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.12	7.20
3,700	Exch 10½% 1997	110[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.47	7.13
5,550	Treas 8¾% 1997	105[illegible]	...	8.26	7.12
830	Exch 15% 1997	128[illegible]	-[illegible]	11.71	7.43
3,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	109[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.90	7.31
2,750	Treas 7¼% 1998	100[illegible]	...	7.21	7.11
1,200	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	98[illegible]	+[illegible]	6.84	7.09
	MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
935	Treas 15½% 1998	134	-[illegible]	11.57	7.63
3,909	Exch 12% 1998	118[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.09	7.72
1,900	Treas 9½% 1999	108[illegible]	...	8.74	7.56
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	120[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.16	7.80
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	113[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.26	7.67
1,798	Conv 10¼% 1999	112[illegible] xd	+[illegible]	9.09	7.70
4,758	Conv 9% 2000	107[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.47	7.65
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	126[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.28	8.07
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	111[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.98	8.01
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	125[illegible] 1	-[illegible]	11.16	7.76
6,327	Treas 9¾% 2002	110[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.83	8.14
4,150	Treas 8% 2003	99[illegible] 1	+[illegible]	8.04	8.07
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	111[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.93	8.25

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gro red yld
1,620	Treas 11½% 2001-04	118[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.72	8.28
493	Fund 3½% 1999-04	70[illegible]	+[illegible]	4.97	7.46
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.77	8.37
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.77	8.39
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.87	8.59
2,000	Treas 8% 2002-06	97[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.22	8.38
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.73	8.55
2,997	Treas 8½% 2007	100[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.45	8.43
1,250	Treas 13½% 2004-08	134[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.07	8.00
	LONGS (over 15 years)				
4,321	Treas 9% 2008	104[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.60	8.47
2,500	Treas 8% 2009	95[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.35	8.51
2,923	Conv 9% 2011	104[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.63	8.55
4,850	Treas 9% 2012	104[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.63	8.55
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	73[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.45	8.24
700	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	92[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.35	8.50
1,000	Exch 12% 2013-17	130[illegible] xd	+[illegible]	9.18	8.76
5,500	Treas 8¾% 2017	101[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.60	8.59
	UNDATED				
359	Consols 4%	46[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.65	...
1,909	War Ln 3½%	40[illegible] 1	+[illegible]	8.63	...
122	Conv 3½%	62	+[illegible]	5.65	...
276	Consols 2½%	30[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.25	...
475	Treas 2½%	28[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.60	...
	INDEX-LINKED				
500	Treas IL 2% 1994	137[illegible]	+[illegible]	...	0.98
1,200	Treas IL 2% 1994	195[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.02	2.72
500	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	107[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.44	2.98
1,350	Treas IL 2½% 2001	164[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.92	3.24
950	Treas IL 2½% 2003	161[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.01	3.27
600	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	109[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.11	3.36
1,350	Treas IL 2% 2006	169[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.12	3.32
1,400	Treas IL 2½% 2009	151[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.30	3.48
1,550	Treas IL 2½% 2011	156[illegible]	+1[illegible]	3.37	3.54
1,950	Treas IL 2½% 2013	129[illegible]	+1[illegible]	3.42	3.56
2,050	Treas IL 2½% 2016	137[illegible]	+1[illegible]	3.48	3.62
1,700	Treas IL 2½% 2020	131[illegible]	+1[illegible]	3.53	3.65
1,300	Treas IL 2½% 2024	109[illegible]	-1[illegible]	3.55	3.66
650	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	109[illegible]	+1[illegible]	3.56	3.68

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5405 (+0.0038)
German mark
2.5107 (+0.0417)
Exchange index
81.0 (+1.0)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2187.5 (-31.1)
FT-SE 100
2812.2 (-34.8)
New York Dow Jones
3492.83 (+49.82)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
20557.47 (+83.32)

Ford moves into top gear to fight back against Japanese

From being the butt of jokes, Dagenham's car plant is now a leading production centre in the Ford empire. **Kevin Eason** reports

Driving force: Jacques Nasser, Ford of Europe chairman, who says he is not intimidated by the Japanese

Two years ago, it would have been a meeting between sworn enemies, but Jacques Nasser grabbed the hand of the Dagenham shop steward like a long lost friend.

"You have got to come along to one of our business meetings some time." Mr Nasser, the new chairman of Ford of Europe, told George Jeffrey as robots whirred and giant presses clanked around them in Ford's biggest British manufacturing plant.

There was a time when that invitation would have been like one from the Big Bad Wolf to Red Riding Hood. But Mr Nasser and the Dagenham shop steward have a common mission: to rescue Ford's British operations from financial losses totalling more than £700 million in two years.

The deficit for 1992, to be announced on Thursday, is likely to be about £300 million, the second worst on record, after a £430 million loss in 1991, confirming just how hard the recession hit Ford

Layoffs and redundancies have been common currency of Ford's day-to-day operations for the past two years. City analysts said Ford was too overweight, too inefficient and, above all, going nowhere. Dagenham has long been the target of a whispering campaign, which said that a British plant would have to close, with production going to the company's more efficient operations on the Continent. Halewood is now the target of similar rumours.

Mr Nasser laughs off the suggestion and points at the Dagenham revival as the main reason the analysts and pundits will be proved wroog. Productivity is up 50 per cent inside four years. A single $23.5 million dollar investment will help improve efficiency further by giving Dagenham a new Fiesta assembly line in July.

The line will confirm Dagenham's status as one of Europe's top car plants. From being the butt of jokes, Dagenham is now a leading production centre in the Ford empire, pioneering work on the company's next important new model and training engineers from continental plants. It is a remarkable success story — yet one that has gone almost unnoticed, submerged under the plaudits regularly handed out to the new Japanese companies. By Mr Nasser's analysis, too many have for too long been blinded by the alleged economic miracle of the Japanese factories setting up in the UK.

For ministers, Nissan, Toyota and Honda are the future, the super-efficient factories of next century bringing jobs, new technology and investment to regions desperate for employment. There seems no argument with figures that show that Nissan can make a Micra small car at its plant at Washington, Tyne & Wear, in just 10.5 hours when the average for the rest of Europe is almost three times as long. These "transplant" factories are forecast to take more and more sales. Along with imports, they will account for 40 per cent of all new European production capacity up to the year 2000 and will take almost half of all new auto sales, according to Karl Ludvigsen, of Euromotor Reports.

That sort of prediction underlines the concern in boardrooms of car companies from Turin to Warley in Essex where Mr Nasser moved into the chairman's seat in January. Even after four months in his new job, he is deeply sceptical of the EC's decision to allow the Japanese unrestricted access to the European market. He said: "What is the gain of openly inviting these companies to participate in this market when they do not participate in terms of developing technology and people here?" While Ford bears the cost of its own R&D and management here independently from its American parent, the Japanese have no such costs, he claims. Their only worry is to manufacture from greenfield sites with young workforces selected from the best of each region they have moved into.

Japanese efficiency levels achieved in the UK have had ministers drooling with pleasure, but make European manufacturers look like the dinosaur waiting for the sales climate to change and wipe out their outdated world.

Speaking for the first time as the head of Ford's European business, Mr Nasser says ministers have missed the point. There is a miracle happening in Dagenham too and there is just as much investment, new technology and employment. Britain has been overwhelmed, he says, by the notion that the new Japanese factories transplanted into the UK would sweep away the established brownfield sites of Ford, Rover and Vauxhall. "We are not intimidated by the Japanese in their technology or their productivity. We knew we had to do something to react to them and Ford and the other European manufacturers are moving very quickly to compete."

To put the Japanese investment of about £2 billion between three companies in the UK into context, Mr Nasser says that Ford is spending about $2 billion annually in Europe, about 40 per cent on average allocated to the UK. Dagenham, popularly labelled the factory Ford would most like to close, is the kind of revelation he wants the world to know about.

Working practices once seemed to match the age of the old red bricks of the vast sheds built when Edsel Ford, Henry Ford's only son, inaugurated the site of the plant in 1929. In the late 1980s, Dagenham was in crisis, one of the most inefficient plants in Ford's European operations, with managers and workers entrenched in a "them and us" confrontations. By 1990, it was a matter of survival for both sides. Nissan was starting to boom from its factory at Washington while Toyota and Honda had announced plans for major plants.

A national pay strike which cost the company £16 million a day in lost production led outsiders to believe that both sides were trying to press the self-destruct button on a business which had been thriving in the UK since Ford first started manufacturing at Trafford Park, Manchester, in 1903.

From being the most dominant car firm in the British market, Ford was on a downward spiral. Market share dropped from the high 30 per cent established in the 1980s to the low twenties. Dagenham and Halewood were so inefficient that executives regularly read the riot act to the workforce. Job cuts followed. There were 8,000 workers at Dagenham in 1989 but only 4,200 today.

While not making the all-embracing switch to Japanese working methods, old demarcation areas were swept away and replaced by small teams responsible for every function of their manufacturing area. And the change has been remarkable. As Mr Nasser toured Dagenham, shaking hands with workers, George Jeffrey, shop steward and sheet metalworker, told me: "We were not sure at first what was happening. But now we know we can make changes and help the business, everyone wants to be involved."

In one project alone, Mr Jeffrey and his team investigated a tailgate problem in which warranty claims had been as high as 49.8 per 1,000 jobs. Within two years, that figure was down to 13.7 and they will hit a target of ten soon.

The threat of the Japanese will not disappear, but that is no reason to have the rest of the British industry cowering in fear in a corner. Mr Nasser says: "These people in Dagenham have terrific experience and now they have genuine commitment. Whatever has gone before, this business knows what targets it has to achieve and the will to hit those targets. We do not fear anyone.

"The European car makers have been shown to be very resilient and I just do not see them simply fading away into the sunset. There may be more co-operation and some changes, but I would bet that the European car makers will make a pretty good effort at fighting back. We have to. We will not give away what we have as easily as that."

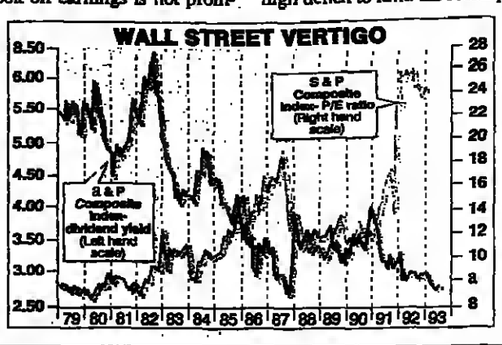
TEMPUS

Not so fair shares in US

THE dizzying rise of the Dow Jones average last week seemed to confound the argument that the US equity market is so over-extended that no further gains are possible, with an inevitable sharp correction only weeks away. The index hit records on Wednesday and Thursday on little more than rumour.

The rise was less impressive than it looked. The Dow, based on 30 leading shares, has gained 6.7 per cent this year, but broader indices are performing less well; the S&P Composite has risen only 3.5 per cent. Even the Dow's rise only equates to an annual 13 per cent, marginally higher than Wall Street's long-term average capital gain of 11 per cent.

This still puts p/e ratios near their record high and dividend yields on less than 3 per cent. The outlook on earnings is not promising either. The recovery is slow and corporate taxes are likely to rise next year under the Clintoo regime. The market level is less surprising in the light of the weight of cash flooding into the market. Mutual funds are taking in up to $15 billion a month. Almost every investor in America is abandoning his deposit account in favour of equities because of low interest rates. Only the high ratings are deterring institutions from pushing shares even higher.



The principal problem is that America is suffering an equity shortage. Corporations bought in $640 billion of equities from 1984-90 in the leveraged buyout boom and replaced it with debt. Since then, less than $100 billion has been replaced through initial public offerings, even though equity issues are coming thick and fast. The main danger to the equity market would be a rise in interest rates. This could happen if President Clinton's tax bill fails and he is forced to continue a high deficit to fund his social programmes. If long-term treasury rates begin to rise, institutions will run to the safety of cash. In those circumstances America's private investors will soon discover how fast equities can fall.

Bricks

BRITAIN'S brick mountain is crumbling. Brick manufacturers say demand is outstripping supply and that brick stocks could fall to 1.2 billion by the end of June, the lowest for more than 18 months and down from a record 1.56 billion at the end of last year.

The fall in brick stocks is bringing scant relief to manufacturers. One of the main reasons for the turnaround is the amount of manufacturing capacity they have closed or mothballed in the last three years rather than any real increase in demand. A stock of 1.2 billion bricks still represents five months' supply.

The brick mountain is also beginning to look dated, since parts of it has been sitting in yards for more two years.

Some of it is frost damaged and its packaging is rotting, making the bricks practically unsaleable. In these cases, the bricks will be ground down and sold as hard core, forcing the manufacturers to make stock writedowns.

The stockpile is also preventing brick manufacturers from increasing their prices, unlike other building material manufacturers. This they need to do badly since prices have fall by up to 40 per cent in the last three years. As a result, profits will recover more slowly than the market perhaps appreciates.

This was shown in last week's interim figures from Hanson, which showed flat profits of £24 million from the part of the division that contains London Brick and Butterley Brick, the market leaders.

At Redland, which has perhaps 20 per cent of the brick market, the profit recovery is also expected to be slow, to perhaps £245 million this year and £275 million in 1994.

Ibstock Johnsen's recovery will be just as painful, producing perhaps just £4 million in 1994 after something like break-even this year.

The brick mountain may have been scaled but it has yet to be conquered.

Brewing

MANY things can be preserved in alcohol but dignity is oot one of them, as Britain's brewers, currently engaged in a discounting war, are rapidly finding out.

Beer consumption fell by 3 per cent last year prompting an intense battle for market share with major brewers offering discounts of up to 50 per cent.

The ground for this price war was laid by the Department of Trade and Industry beer orders, which forced the major brewers to relinquish many of their tied pubs and encouraged them to court outside buyers to maintain brewing volumes.

The brewers are not just slugging it out on price. Many are also using free trade loans to buy favour and, as last week's results showed, are bearing the cost of bad debt charges that follow.

The operators now looking clever are those, such as Grand Metropolitan, Greenalls and Boddington, that got out of brewing to concentrate on retailing.

Among those who remained, the victors will be those with strong brands, which do not need to discount to gain volume. The growth of the take-home market, which has doubled in the past ten years, has raised consumers' awareness of brands and their eagerness to buy them at the off-licence or in the pub. As with the scotch whisky industry in the eighties, a good brand portfolio has become the key to success in the brewing market of the nineties.

Brixton Estate

BRIXTON Estate must be doing something right since few companies can boast a 6 per cent rise in their share price after announcing heavy rights issues.

Friday's £100 millioo call was nicely timed; many property analysts have been increasing their net asset value forecasts for property companies recently in the belief that increased investment in property will push yields lower.

This has sent the shares of Land Securities and the other big groups soaring above their current reported net asset values.

Issuing paper at a premium to buy property is a sensible strategy and the reduction in gearing gives Brixton more room to manoeuvre. The group's plan to stick to its home pitch is safe but not necessarily the most rewarding.

The South East has been badly affected by over-development and industrial property is unlikely to be the first sector to recover since most of industry is running at well below capacity.

That implies static rental values at best for some time. The attraction of shares in Brixton, like most of its peers in the property sector, is the company's dividend yield. At the rights price of 155p, investors will be receiving an income return of 6.7 per cent, assuming that the payout is held.

GILT-EDGED

Real rates tip balance for investors

First-quarter GDP data released a couple of weeks ago confirmed that the UK economy has finally emerged from recession. Indeed, recent figures on retail sales and manufacturing output suggest that growth this year could comfortably exceed the consensus estimate of 1.5 per cent. Against this backdrop it is perhaps not surprising that there is a widespread acceptance that the inflation cycle is close to bottoming.

This concern has, over the past few months, encouraged some investors to start rebalancing their holdings of coventional and index-linked gilts. In theory, at least, it is assumed that an acceleration in inflation will benefit the latter instrument at the expense of the former. However, the evidence available since index-linked gilts were first issued in the early 1980s is far from wholly convincing.

To take just one example: in the two years from the second quarter of 1986 onwards, when the underlying measure of inflation (excluding mortgages) rose from 3.1 to 4.5 per cent, conventional gilts actually outperformed by some 10 per cent in gross terms. Index-linked gilts only managed to recover this lost ground over the course of 1988 as fears intensified that an overheating economy would push inflation substantially higher. This time around few experts believe it likely that inflation will follow such a course.

Even the normally cautious Bank of England, in its latest *Quarterly Bulletin*, appears fairly sanguine about inflation prospects. It states that the odds of the government achieving its target of keeping underlying inflation within the 1-4 per cent range remain favourable, despite what it sees as a marginally higher risk of breaching the upper limit in 1994.

Interestingly, the Bank's central expectation is a view shared by the gilt market if one looks at the inflatioo rate implied by a comparison of the yield oo conventional gilts with that on index-linked stocks.

In calculating an implied inflation rate, allowance should be made for a "certainty premium" arising from the fact that index-linked stocks preserve real value and are thus less "risky" than conventional gilts. We estimate this certainty premium lies in the neighbourhood of 1.2 per cent. Subtracting this figure and the yield on long dated index-linked stock from the yield on long dated conventional stock leaves an implied inflation rate of 3.8 per cent. This forward view of inflation falls within the government's target range.

The issue theo is how, with this sort of background, portfolios ought to be rebalanced. Should index-linked stocks be preferred to conventionals or should conventionals be preferred to index-linked?

In our empirical work we found that nominal short term interest rates play as much of a role as inflation in determining relative performance. Specifically, the analysis revealed that the tendency on the part of the market to over or underestimate both interest rates and inflation sustains opportunities for arbitrage. The attempt to eliminate these opportunities produces the re-rating in one or other of conventional or index-linked stocks which leads to the outperformance.

The influence of interest rate expectations was found to be roughly equal in magnitude but opposite in effect to that of inflation expectations. So the evidence suggests that expectations of the real interest rate, and the tendency to over or underestimate this variable, are the crucial determinants of relative performance. When the real rate of interest falls faster (or rises more slowly) than expected there is a tendency for index-linked stocks to outperform conventional gilts. Conversely, when the real rate of interest rises faster (or falls more slowly) than expected there is a tendency for conventionals to outperform index-linked stocks. In fact, what we found was that every 1 per cent of forecasting error produces approximately 2 per cent of outperformance. This finding naturally limits the usefulness of relying exclusively on a break-even inflation rate as "switching rule" for deciding when to hold index-linked stocks and when to hold conventional gilts.

> 'In our empirical work, we found that nominal short term interest rates play as much of a role as inflation in determining performance'

The market currently appears to be looking for real interest rates to average close to 4 per cent over the balance of this year. While our forecast for inflation is similar to the consensus we are more optimistic on the scope for lower nominal interest rates. Indeed, we expect base rates to fall to 5 per cent by the end of the year despite the recovery in the economy. On these assumptions the real interest rate would average around 3.3 per cent over the next eight months, some 60 basis points below the market's current expectations. A tax-exempt fund willing to bet against a market that appears to be somewhat conservative in its assessment of real interest rates ought therefore to prefer index-linked stocks to conventionals.

If a more bullish view of the real interest rate proves to be correct our findings imply that index-linked gilts should outperform conventional stocks by about 120 basis points.

MICHAEL LENHOFF
SIMON RUBINSOHN
Copel Cure Myers Capital Management

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Pinstripes and green wellies

LIFE with the green welly brigade has proved less idyllic than Diana Cornish bargained for when she swapped her £100,000-a-year job as managing director of Blue Arrow's Brook Street Bureau last year for the chance to spend more time at home running her family's 83-acre equestrian centre, Greenacres Equestrian, at Harpenden, Hertfordshire. The lure of the business world has dragged Cornish back to the City. She has just become managing director of TRG Services, a small City employment agency specialising in telecommunications and switchboard personnel. But this time, she has got the best of both worlds, working two days a week at TRG and the other three overseeing the continued expansion of her family business. "I needed the money to pay the mortgage but dreaded going into a full-time job," says Cornish, who started her career as a £3-a-week receptionist in her grandfather's factory before graduating to Avon Lady cosmetic sales. "Now I have the best of both worlds. My part-time job allows me to enjoy my time in the country even more."

Team effort

EVEN the "action bank" sometimes needs a little rest. But National Westminster, which has been trying to sell the Harlem Globetrotters for more than three months, has again been forced to live up to its corporate slogan. The bank, which took control of the world's most famous basketball team almost two years ago, when International Broadcasting Corporation, its owner, went into bankruptcy protection, has opted to retain a 20 per cent stake over the next five years by selling 80 per cent to former Globetrotter-turned-businessman Mannie Jackson. But sources close to the deal say the bank is not selling to the highest bidder and will take a 60 per cent loss on the $59 million loans it advanced to IBC. Jackson, 51, who played with the Globetrotters in the early sixties, is offering $6 million for the team, $5 million of which will be funded through a loan from NatWest. But the Globetrotters' former owner is also trying to buy back the team. Tom Scallen, the IBC chairman, says: "We are offering $7.5 million and in cash, but we haven't heard anything." Jackson, who wants Jesse Jackson, former US presidential candidate, and MC Hammer, the rap singer, on the team's advisory board, plans to step up the action by creating a second Globetrotters team.

Diana Cornish: having the best of both worlds

Drama in the City

ONCE more, the time has come for the City's more dramatically inclined to step before the footlights in the latest Stock Exchange Dramatic & Operatic Society production, *The Pajama Game*. But only five of the 25 parts have gone to City workers, and all have been confined to chorus or other minor roles. The Stock Exchange has fielded two actresses, Caroline Bell and Gerry White. William Harrison-Wallace, a Warburg market-maker, Edward Cullin, a director's assistant at Seymour, Pierce Butterfield, and Bernard Duggan, in claims at Hargreaves, Rice & Quinn, make up the rest of the City cast. At least the lead has gone to an economics teacher. Adrian Cave plays Sid, a manager brought in to reorganise a factory against the wishes of a militant workforce demanding a rise of 7½ cents an hour. Of course the play, which runs at the Shaw Theatre fmm May 25 to 29, bears no parallels to the exchange's search for a new chief executive.

Lines of shares

WITH Wall Street soaring to new heights, nobody, not even the president or his first lady, is immune to a bit of speculation. Most of the Clintons' money is invested in low-yielding mooey-market funds, no doubt motivated by the political need to remain untarnished by accusations of conflicts of interest. But the Clintons do own some shares, including a block valued at about $250,000 in Wal-Mart Stores, the department store chain. They also have stakes ranging from $1,000 to $15,000 in Nynex, Bell Atlantic and Bell South, all telecommunications firms. Surely, the president's legislative priorities will remain disconnected from his keen interest in the nation's telephone lines.

Bowled over

RIVALRY on the bowling green between two City capital management firms has resulted in at least one happy ending: Jeremy Warner-Allen, Beeson Gregory's small-company broking specialist, and Carolyne Russell, a broker at Capel Cure Myers, were so bowled over by each other that they became engaged. The sporting couple marry in September.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

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هكذا من الأصل

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (91095)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (23958796)
9.05 A Word in Your Ear. Verbal communication game show (s) (4379453) **9.35 King of the Road.** Ross King and Anna Walker visit Portaferry (2091786)
10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5153540) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (s) (4928540)
10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (62004453)
12.05 Pebble Mill. Judi Spiers discovers what it takes to be a draw at the Cannes Film Festival (s) (2827328)
12.45 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. An update on the morning's topics (s) (21521724) **12.55 Regional news** and weather (18810637)
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (11786)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (70126076) **1.50 Eldorado** (r). (Ceefax) (25513076)
2.20 Dallas (r). (Ceefax) (2957927) **3.05 Turnabout.** Word power game show (s) (3698144)
3.35 Cartoon (5841415) **3.45 Penny Crayon** (r) (4733298) **3.50 Bodger and Badger** (r) (s) (7402499) **4.10 The All New Popeye Show** (r) (9547683) **4.30 The Boy From Andromeda** (r). (Ceefax) (2982163)
4.55 Newsround (8673298) **5.05 Blue Peter.** Enduring children's magazine. (Ceefax) (s) (4787927)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (498637). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) Weather (811)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (163). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Eldorado. (Ceefax) (s) (4182)
7.30 The Doctor. A repeat of the series following the work of a GP in a Yorkshire Dales practice (s) (347)
8.00 Bruce's Guest Night. This week Bruce Forsyth is joined by ventriloquist Ronn Lucas and the veteran singer/actor Howard Keel. (Ceefax) (s) (3142)
8.30 Waiting For God. Comedy set in a retirement home (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9637)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (7873)
9.30 Panorama: The Beast of Corleone. *A report from* Sicily on the arrest of Mafia chief, Salvatore Riina, who had been on the run for 23 years (637863)
10.10 The Men's Room. Episode three of the five-part drama of sex, marriage and deceit spanning a ten-year period (r). (Ceefax) (217144). Northern Ireland: Stanley Woods — the Movie; Wales: Rugby (Wales v Zimbabwe) 10.40 The Men's Room

Casualty: Letitia Dean volunteers (11.00pm)

11.00 The V Word. The first of a six-programme series on volunteering opportunities. Tonight the work of the Casualties Union is highlighted by *EastEnder* Letitia Dean. (Ceefax) (567076). Northern Ireland: The Men's Room
11.10 France Means Business. A profile of top French industrialist Vincent Bolloré (308250). Wales: 11.30 The V Word
11.40 Cagney and Lacey. New York policewomen drama series (r). (Ceefax) (211415). Northern Ireland: 11.50 The V Word 12.00-12.30 France Means Business; Wales: 12.25 France Means Business
12.30am Weather (3357038). Ends at 12.35
2.15-2.45 BBC Select: Executive Business Club. Scrambled (78380) **3.00-3.30 RCN Nursing Update** (44854)

BBC2

7.10 Open University: Ancient Athens — Silver Mining (5901366) **7.35** Whose Land is it Anyway? (9429415) **8.00 Breakfast News** (5719873)
8.15 Westminster (6732724)
8.30 Under Sail. The 1907 Bridgewater ketch *Irene* (r) (6427569) **8.50 A Week To Remember** (b/w). *Vintage Pathé newsclips* (2303927)
9.00 Daytime on Two: The Spanish Connection (1396144) 9.25 Job Bank (7890569) **9.45** Storytime (s) (2305434) **10.00** La Marée et ses secrets (5053182) **10.18** Music Time (s) (5049989) **10.40** Mathspy (8094601) **11.00** Zig Zag (6631811) **11.25** Play it Safe! (Ceefax) (1635415) **11.35** Questions (2742144) 11.55 Movable Feasts (8728618) **12.10** Geography Casebook (3274303) **12.30** History File (s) (1993250) **12.50** Teaching Today (s) (1511786) **1.20** Fiddley Foodle Bird (s) (77983095) **1.30** Spider (s) (85111989) **1.35** King Greenfingers (85103960) **1.40** *Landmarks (s) (70148298)*
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Storytime** (r) (s) (12925057) **2.15 Regional Westminster Programmes** (r) (880298). Northern Ireland: Gardens by design **2.45 First Eleven.** Dali's painting *Dali — 12th Man* (r) (8864182)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (3534144) followed by **Praise Be!** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1982637) **3.40 A Week To Remember** (b/w). As 8.50am (4718521) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (4712705)
4.00 Film: The Bigamist (1953, b/w) starring Edmond O'Brien, Joan Fontaine and Ida Lupino, who also directs. A childless couple decide to adopt a baby, but then the wife discovers that her husband has another wife — and a baby son (3905908)
5.20 Holiday Outings. Jimmy Mulville takes a Club Med cruise in the Mediterranean (8087705)
5.30 Gardeners' World (r). (Ceefax) (s) (540)
6.00 Film: The Big Sky (1952, b/w) starring Kirk Douglas and Dewey Martin. Western drama, set in 1832, following the hazardous progress of two Kentucky mountaineers travelling along the uncharted Missouri River. Directed by Howard Hawks (5144)
8.00 Horizon: Wot U Lookin At? (Ceefax). (s) See Choice (6873)

Spoof trial: Gascoine and Callow (9.00pm)

9.00 It's A Stitch Up. (Ceefax) (s) See Choice (263366)
9.40 Nightshift. The second evening of the live wildlife *surveillance series* (572705)
10.00 Porridge: Happy Release. The *Crime and Punishment* series continues with a classic episode of the behind bars comedy. Starring Ronnie Barker and David Jason. (Ceefax) (98786)
10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman (107453)
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine (s) (767908) **11.45 Weather** (968078)
11.50 Nightshift. Highlights of this evening's edition of the live wildlife programme (347434)
12.00 The American Indian (38859). Ends at **12.30am**

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CHOICE

Violent history: prisoner Tony Hogan (BBC2, 8.00pm)

Horizon: Wot U Lookin At?
BBC2, 8.00pm

Violent crime is rising and most of it is committed by young men from poor backgrounds. The facts are clear but the causes are mainly conjecture. A round-up of the latest research into what makes young men violent reveals an almost total lack of agreement. Some experts say aggression is inherited and they are looking for the genes that might produce a psychopathic personality. Others argue that violent behaviour is down to upbringing. Right-wing professors blame moral decline, left-wingers point to deprivation. There may be an amused fascination in watching so-called authorities flatly contradicting each other but really the primitive state of knowledge and understanding is nothing to smile about.

It's A Stitch-Up
BBC2, 9.00pm

Alan Ereira's film uses a spoof game show to explore the shortcomings of a legal system which since 1989 has told 40 people they have been wrongly convicted. The former footballer Garth Crooks sportingly plays the suspect, a man accused of murder, while the case is conducted by a mixture of Simon Callow, Jill Gascoine and real lawyers. A shaven-headed Ken Campbell is our genial host and the show even appropriates the lovely Samantha from Radio 4's *I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue*. So that is what she looks like. The jocular approach embodies serious points, about confessions, identity parades, legal aid, forensic evidence and so on but in the end you wonder whether the format is more a distraction than a help.

Naked Sport: That's Entertainment
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Nicholas Kent wraps up his illuminating series on American sport by looking at the marketing men. As usual Kent interweaves two contrasting stories. Only ten years ago basketball had a severe image problem. It was plagued by drugs scandals and there was difficulty selling a mainly black sport to a white majority. Enter David Stern, who turned the game into a Disney-like entertainment, with music, dancing girls and souvenir merchandise. The bad image has passed to ice hockey. The violence is appalling, player power is out of hand and the sport is failing to attract lucrative television deals. Does ice hockey need a David Stern? Heaven forbid say the diehards, but their days look numbered.

Channels of Resistance: Tactical Television
Channel 4, 10.55pm

The last in the series on global television considers how technology is helping to put power back into the hands of ordinary people. It argues that the camcorder, in particular, is enabling individual voices to be heard against the homogenising effect of government and the big corporations. In Thailand footage shot during demonstrations against the military dictatorship was widely shown in defiance of the government and helped to win suppprt for the pro-democracy movement. In Israel Palestinians have used video to make their case against the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. As an Indian commentator puts it: "Mass media tend to obliterate identity. Video tends to rediscover it". **Peter Waymark**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV. The guests include actress Chene Lunghi (6754540)
9.25 Cross Wits. Crossword game (1393057) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (4904960)
10.00 Out of this World. American comedy (r) (s) (10973)
10.30 This Morning. Family magazine (62080673)
12.10 Tots TV. Children's puppet show (r) (s) (2325417)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News. (Teletext) and weather (8987453) **1.05 London Today** and weather (75547569)
1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama. (Teletext) (853144) **1.45 A Country Practice.** Medical drama (s) (852415)
2.15 Capital Woman presented by Anneka Rice (s) (877724) **2.45 Families.** Soap set in the north of England and Australia (s) (5739231)
3.10 ITN News headlines (3545250) **3.15 London Today** *(Teletext) and weather (3544521)*
3.20 Blockbusters General knowledge quiz game for teenagers (s) (1967328)
3.50 Cartoon featuring Pepe le Pew (r) (4624231) **3.55 The Real Ghostbusters** (r) (9812360) **4.20 Runaway Bay.** The final episode of the children's adventure serial. (Teletext) (s) (4644095) **4.50 Art Attack** with Neil Buchanan (8602231)
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (4771366)
5.40 Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (330273)
6.00 London Tonight. (Teletext) (43724)
7.00 Busman's Holiday. *Holiday and occupations quiz* game. (Teletext) (9250)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (415)

Deadline: Jerry Hall, Daniel Peacock (8.00pm)

8.00 Cluedo. Last in the series based on the successful board game. Viewers can test their sleuthing skills when royal biographer Roger Morgan (Daniel Peacock) is murdered at Arlington Grange while researching a new book. The regular suspects are Joanna Lumley, Leslie Grantham, Jerry Hall, Nicholas Parsons, Liz Smith and John Bird (5298)
8.30 World in Action: Evidence of Execution. An investigation into accusations that British paratroopers committed war crimes during the Falklands war (4705)
9.00 Peak Practice. Medical drama series starring Kevin Whately and Amanda Burton as GPs working in a Peak District practice. (Teletext) (s) (3163)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (18540) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (965569)
10.40 Singles. The second in a seven-part series about contemporary courting practises (s) (423892)
11.10 Film: Mr Inside, Mr Outside (1973) starring Tony LoBianco and Hal Linden. New York police drama about two officers who bend the rules when going after an embassy official involved in an international drugs ring. Directed by William A. Graham (114453)
12.30 The Beat. Music and movie magazine presented by Gary Crowley (23922)
1.30 Sport AM. Golf, ice hockey and football (47057)
2.30 60 Minutes. American news magazine (98583)
3.30 Videofashion. What to wear in the beach this year (40187) **4.00 Hollywood Report.** Showbusiness gossip (r) (s) (54380)
4.30 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (r) (30651)
5.00 Riviera. French drama serial (18941)
5.30 ITN Morning News (23212). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.15 I Love Lucy (b/w). Vintage American domestic comedy starring Lucille Ball (65298)
6.45 Spiff and Hercules. Cat and dog cartoon series (8035144)
7.00 The Big Breakfast presented by Chris Evans and Gaby Roslin (34637)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (s) (30219)
9.30 Schools (589415)
12.00 Right To Reply. Parents, children, teachers and experts from Britain discuss with schedulers and regulators of television the effects the medium has on children (r). (Teletext) (s) (15453)
12.30 Sesame Street. Early-learning entertainment (r) (54521)
1.30 Sandokan. Animated adventures of a pirate (r) (32616)
2.00 Film: Slave Ship (1937, b/w) starring Warner *Baxter, Wallace Beery, Mickey Rooney and George* Sanders. A melodramatic tale of a slave ship captain whose desire to give up his evil trade is thwarted when his crew, led by the first mate, mutiny. Directed by Tay Garnett (317231)
3.40 Joe McDoakes (1948, b/w). Comedy short in which Joe dreams of becoming a Philip Marlowe (5855618)
3.55 Grow Your Greens. A repeat of Friday's programme in which Sophie Grigson learns about growing tomatoes, aubergines and sweet peppers. (Teletext) (2901182)
4.30 Fifteen To One. *Fast-moving general knowledge* quiz game. The question-master is William G. Stewart. (Teletext) (s) (328)
5.00 The Late Late Show. Topical chat and music from Dublin, hosted by Gay Byrne (s) (6163)
6.00 Children's Ward. Medical drama series set in a city general hospital (r) (521)
6.30 The Cosby Show. American domestic comedy (r). (Teletext) (873)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (417434)
7.50 Comment by Reggie von Zugbach on the threatened British Army regiments (751322)
8.00 Brookside. Topical soap set in a suburban Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (6540)
8.30 Surgical Spirit. Cutting comedy about an acerbic surgeon. Starring Nichola McAuliffe (r). (Teletext) (2347)

A bad image: American ice hockey (9.00pm)

9.00 Naked Sport: That's Entertainment. (Teletext) (s) See Choice (1705)
10.00 Northern Exposure. Quirky comedy about a New York doctor practising in the wilds of Alaska. Starring Rob Morrow (s) (950347)
10.55 Channels of Resistance: Tactical Television. See Choice (9669873)
12.00 Close to Home: A Tale of Two Cities. A report by Duncan Campbell from Edinburgh on the accusations of intrigue, conspiracy and scandal that have shocked the Scottish legal establishment. The programme was originally scheduled for transmission in January but was postponed because of legal action (82160)
12.30am Hard Shoulder. Drama starring Donal O'Kelly as a businessman with a need to sell a consignment of stolen fire extinguishers but only two of the five salespeople who turn up at his office are willing to handle the goods (r) (9072922). Ends at **1.55**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 2.15-2.45 The De Medici Kitchen (877724) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (1967328) **5.10-5.40** Sixth Sense (4771366) **6.00** Home and Away (880960) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (746163) **10.40** Love Call (203076) **11.40** Crime Story (611366) **12.35** The Twilight Zone (6157632) **1.00** Film: What's Up, Tiger Lily? (666019) **2.35** Sport AM (9324274) **3.35** The Beat (1060583) **4.30** Riviera (30651) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (18941)

BORDER
As London except: 2.15-2.45 Pain With The Flying Artist (877724) **3.20-3.50** Sons and Daughters (1967328) **6.00** Lookaround (279) **6.25** A Party Political Broadcast (Scottish Nationals) **6.30-7.00** Take the High Road (231) **10.40** Film: Chinatown (59343076) **1.00** Film: What's Up, Tiger Lily? (666019) **2.35** Sport AM (9324274) **3.35** The Beat (1060583) **4.30** Riviera (30651) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (18941)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (853144) **1.45** Home and Away (852415) **2.15-2.45** The De Medici Kitchen (877724) **3.20-3.50** Shortland Street (1967328) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (4771366) **6.00** Home and Away (880960) **6.20-7.00** *Central News* (746163) **10.40** The Twilight Zone (423892) **11.10** Film: Caprice (262250) **1.00** Crime Story (1840748) **1.55** Musical Routes (6388274) **2.25** 60 Minutes (3035477) **3.35** Jobfinder (4405380) **4.50** Karm Bhoomi (13029106) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (6303477)

GRANADA
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (853144) **1.45** Home and Away (852415) **2.15-3.10** Island Son (5084453) **3.20-3.50** Sons and Daughters (1967328) **5.10-5.40** Hunt the Pie (4771366) **6.00** Home and Away (279) **6.30-7.00** Granada Tonight (231) **10.40** Film: Chinatown (59343076) **1.00** Film: What's Up, Tiger Lily (666019) **2.35** Sport AM (9324274) **3.35** The Beat (1060583) **4.30-5.00** Riviera (30651)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.45 Blockbusters (852415) **2.15-2.45** The De Medici Kitchen (877724) **3.20-3.50** The Sullivans (1967328) **6.00-7.00** HTV News (43724) **10.40** Extra Time (190163) **11.25** Rock Sport (267328) **11.40** Brand New Life (239811) **12.30** Love at First Sight (78274) **1.00** Film: What's Up, Tiger Lily? (666019) **2.35** Sport AM (9324274) **3.35** The Beat (1060583) **4.30** Riviera (30651) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (18941)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00 Wales at Six **6.30-7.00** Primetime **10.40** Judas and the Gimp **11.25-11.40** Better Late

MERIDIAN
As London except: 2.15-2.45 Fit To Win (877724) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (1967328) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (279) **6.30-7.00** Southern Gold (231) **10.40-12.30** Film: The Stone Killer (69294453) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (18941)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.45-2.45 Murder, She Wrote (8770340) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (1967328) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (490347) **6.30-7.00** Robson's People (231) **10.40** Flashback (423892) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (367908) **12.05** IndyCar 93 (6542187) **12.35** Film: OSS 117 Double Agent (890748) **2.25** Entertainment UK

ULSTER
As London except: 1.45 Fair City (852415) **2.15-2.45** Yan Can Cook (877724) **3.20-3.50** The Littlest Hobo (1967328) **6.00-7.00** UTV Live at Six (43724) **10.40** Ulster Hall (423892) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (367908) **12.05** Party With The Rovers (8542187) **12.35** The Twilight Zone (6157532) **1.00** Film: What's Up, Tiger Lily?

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.45 The Young Doctors (852415) **2.15-2.45** Gardening Time (877724) **3.20-3.50** A Country Practice (1967328) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (43724) **10.40** Westcountry Focus (423892) **11.15** Island Son (368279) **12.10** Soap (8541458) **12.40** Around The World in 15 Minutes with Peter Ustinov (3942632) **1.00** Film: What's Up, Tiger Lily? (666019) **2.35** Sport AM (9324274) **3.35** The Beat (1060583) **4.30** Riviera (30651) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (18941)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.45-2.45 Murder, She Wrote (8770340) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (1967328) **5.55** Calendar (490347) **6.30-7.00** Against All Odds (231) **10.40** Class of 93 (423892) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (367908) **12.05** IndyCar 93 (8542187) **12.35** Film: OSS 117 Double Agent (890748) **2.25** Entertainment UK

S4C
Starts: 9.00 You Bet Your Life (30219) **9.30** Ysgolion (589415) **12.00** Right To Reply (15453) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (33847) **1.00** Little Rosey (37724) **1.30** Blossom (25520366) **1.55** Film: Cover Girl (78181892) **3.55** Grow Your Greens (8214124) **4.25** Slot 23 (7587415) **5.00** Fifteen To One (4328) **5.30** Brookside (908) **6.00** Newyddion (271298) **6.10** Heno (666366) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (7892) **7.30** Sgorio (84768) **8.30** Newyddion (929163) **8.55** Y Byd Ar Bedwar (922260) **9.25** Rygbi Rhyngwladol (516960) **10.00** Cheers (16182) **10.30** Northern Exposure (215811) **11.25** Naked Sport (353705) **12.20** Memento (8564309) **12.50** Dream On (3739380) **1.20** Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (46910811) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (4904618) **9.10** Cartoons (6951163) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (88811) **10.00** Card Sharks (6520453) **10.25** Concentration (3370231) **10.50** Dynamo Duck (8511076) **11.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (97095) **11.30** Falcon Crest (37231) **12.30pm** E Street (99927) **1.00** Another World (8032569) **1.45** Santa Barbara (416837) **2.15** Sally Jessy Raphael (161960) **3.15** Different Strokes (497502) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (8386369) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (5453) **6.00** Games World (2095) **6.30** E Street (3347) **7.00** Rescue (6162) **7.30** Family Ties (2231) **8.00** The Far Country: Concluding the two-part mini series starring Michael York (24637) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (77704) **11.00** The Streets of San Francisco (61705) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (69808) **8.30** News and Business Report (185908) **9.30** Roving Report (40415) **10.30** Memories of 1970-1991 (22521) 11.30 Business Report (35873) **12.30pm** News and Business Report (38637) 1.30 Good Morning America (34366) **2.30** Parliament Live (73892) **2.30** Parliament Live (60279) **4.30** News and Business Report (9144) **5.00** Live at Five (49705) **6.30** News and Business Report (61811) **7.30** Special Report (4683) **10.30** Special Report (54786) **11.30** ABC News (40095) **12.30am** Getaway (76038) **1.30** ABC News (38651) **2.30** Memories of 1970-1991 (86941) **3.30** ABC News (47458) **4.30** Special Report (68903) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (61495)

SKY MOVIES PLUS
6.00am Showcase (5303637)
10.00 Triumph of the Heart (1991). A footballer befriends a handicapped boy Starring Mario Van Peebles (60415)
12.00 Barquero! (1970): Warren Oates commandeers Lee Van Cleef's ferry (29291)
2.00pm The Wind and the Lion (1974). Candice Bergen is kidnapped by Sean Connery in Morocco (27724)
4.00 Ice Castles (1978): A skater's career is blighted by an accident (7057)
6.00 Triumph of the Heart (as 10am) (33360)
8.00 Victim of Beauty (1991): Beauty queen Jeri Lynn Ryan becomes the target of a deranged kidnapper (82908724)
9.40 UK Top Ten (640705)
10.00 Daughter of the Streets (1991): Jane Alexander searches for Roxana Zal (455908)
11.35 Killer Klowns from Outer Space (1988): Vampires from outer space descend to earth as clowns (907250)
1.05am The Rape of Dr Willis (1991): Victim Jaclyn Smith operates on her attacker (1791496)
2.35 Hellgate (1988): A father brings his daughter back to life (6211361)
4.05 Mirage (1991): A jeep attacks friends in the desert (522583). Ends at 5.40

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm The Mummy (1932, b/w): Boris *Karloff sheds his bandages (98350)*
8.00 Reflections in a Golden Eye (1967). Marlon Brando plays a repressed homosexual army sergeant (12845)
10.00 The Illustrated Man (1969). A man's tattoos each tell a story. Starring Rod Steiger (353453). Ends at 11.40

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Tokyo After Dark (1959): An American soldier accidentally kills a teenager in Japan (12296)
8.00 Bravestarr: The Legend (1986): Animated space western (37250)
10.00 Design for Living (1933, b/w): Noël Coward's play about a love triangle (68057)
12.00 Harvey Middleman, Fireman (1965): Fire-fighter Gene Troobnick enters a mid-life crisis (27873)
2.00pm I Never Sang for My Father (1970): Gene Hackman cares for his tyrannical father (25366)
4.00 Bravestarr: The Legend (as 8am) (20521) **5.30 Xposure:** Film news (8892)
6.00 Sideout (1990): Volleyball drama with Peter Horton and C. Thomas Howell (55582)
8.00 False Identity (1990): Amnesiac Stacy Keach tries to unravel his past with the help of radio presenter Genevieve Bujold (17347)
10.00 Point Break (1991): FBI agent Keanu Reeves infiltrates a surfing community led by Patrick Swayze (57828279)
12.05am Flight of the Intruder (1991): Brad Johnson and Willem Dafoe carry out an air raid on Hanoi (56017729)
2.10 Nighthawks (1979): Sylvester Stallone and Billy Dee Williams track terrorist Rutger Hauer (587835)
4.00 Skidoo (1968): Gangster comedy with Jackie Gleason (512106). Ends at 6.40

SKY SPORTS
6.30am Stretch (70969) **7.00** Team Cup Tennis (14811) **9.00** Stretch (16163) **9.30** Indy 500 Practice (45705) **10.00** Autoglass Trophy Final: Stockport County v Port Vale (65569) 12.00 US PGA Golf: Kemper Open (74705) **2.00pm** Team Cup Tennis (67366) **4.00** Watersports World (44927) **5.00** World Sports Special (5618) **5.30** Trucks 'n' Tractor Power (7182) **6.00** Windsurfing (4085) **6.30** Indy 500 Practice (5347) **7.00** German League Football (27273) **9.00** Monday Night Football Special (467889) **12.00** Indy 500 Practice (97635) **12.30-1.30am** German League Football (44038)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (99502) **8.00** Motorsport Report (65499) **9.00** Golf: Italian Open (98434) **10.00** Tennis: French Open (8669366) **7.00** News (3250) **7.30** Eurofun (9827) **8.00** Motor Racing: Monaco Grand Prix (73927) **9.00** Tennis: French Open (53163) **10.00** Eurogoals (56250) **11.00** Golf Magazine (96415) **12.00** News (62903)

UK GOLD
7.30am Neighbours (4077732) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (8736989) **8.30** EastEnders (8720960) **9.00** The Bill (8744540) **9.30** The Duchess of Duke Street (8156873) **10.30** The Chinese Detective (4496750) **11.30** No Place Like Home (6036279) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (8731076) **12.30pm** Neighbours (2629705) **1.00** EastEnders (4972188) **1.30** The Bill (2628076) **2.00** George and Mildred (4830989) **2.30** After Henry (4229298) **3.00** Dallas (6030095) **4.00** Dynasty (6019502) **5.00** Blankety Blank (4854569) **5.30** Give Us A Clue (4290786) **6.00** Neighbours (4220927) **6.30** The Duchess of Duke Street (8401892) **7.30** George and Mildred (4200163) **8.00** EastEnders (4843453) **8.30** After Henry (4822960) **9.00** The Chinese Detective (4536057) **10.00** The Bill (8732705) **10.30** Naked Video (8741453) **11.00** Russ Abbott (6010231) **11.30** Dr Who (1261347) **12.00** Film: In Old California (1942, b/w) starring John Wayne (3849038) **1.30-2.00am** Video Bites (5832361)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am Jack in the Box (14219) **7.00** RatKan II (62057) **9.00** Jack in the Box (45892) **11.00** Stories Without Words (77279) **11.30** Say Ahhh! (76906) **12.00** Secret Valley (31958) **1.00pm** Jack in the Box (84618) **2.00** Stories Without Words (4906) **2.30** Say Ahhh! (6892) **3.00** Bobobobs (4656989) **3.25** RatKan II (98106057) **5.00** Katts and Dog (6960) **5.30** Saved by the Bell (7906) **6.00** Fame (97182)

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University: New Curiosity Shop — Hip and Head **6.55** Weather
7.00 On Air, with Piers Burton-Page. Including Poulenc (Two Marches and an Intermezzo: Paris Orchestra under Georges Prêtre); Copland (Three Latin American Sketches: Orpheus CO) Lutoslawski (Dance Preludes: Thea King, clarinet); Mozart (Quintet in E flat, K452: John Ogdon, piano, Derek Wickens, oboe, Barry Tuckwell, horn, Robert Hill, clarinet, Martin Gatt, bassoon)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Haydn — The Final Harvest. Piano Trio in E flat minor, H XV 31 (Beaux Arts Trio); Missa Sancti Bernardi de Offida, Heiligmesse (April Cantelo, soprano, Shirley Minty, contralto, Ian Partridge, tenor, Christopher Keyte, bass; Choir of St John's College, Cambridge; Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under George Guest)
10.00 Hits of the Sixties: The singer-songwriter Loudon Wainwright III talks about "Visions of Johanna", a favourite Bob Dylan composition
10.10 Morning Sequence: Bach (Chorale Prelude, Ein Feste Burg, BWV 720); Mozart (Flute Quartet in C, K285); Haydn (Symphony No 44 in E Minor, Trauer); Gavin Bryars (Cadman Requiem); Busoni, after Mozart (Duettino Concertante); Mendelssohn (Symphony No 5 in D, Reformation)
12.00 Vintage Years: Robert Philip introduces recordings by the violinist and composer Fritz Kreisler **1.00pm News**
1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert: See Choice
2.05 Third Opinion (r)
2.50 BBC Welsh SO under Tadaaki Otaka, with Dong-Suk Kang, violin, performs Rachmaninov (Symphonic Dances, Op 45), Tchaikovsky (Violin Concerto in D; Capriccio Italien)
4.25 Early English Organ Music Keith Elcombe plays hymns and *In Nomines* at St Paul's Church, Armitage Bridge. Including Anon (Bina caelestis); Redford (Primo dierum omnium, O quam glorifica); Blitheman (Gloria tibi trinitas — six settings); Tallis (Gloria tibi trinitas; Iam lucis orto sidere; Ex more docti mistico); Bull (In Nomine No 1; Fantasia in D minor)
5.00 In Tune: Rodney Slatford with music, news and arts events
7.30 Philharmonia under Giuseppe Sinopoli performs Strauss (Horn Concerto No 2 in E flat: Richard Watkins); Mahler (*Symphony No 7*)
9.40 Myra Breckinridge, by Gore Gidal. Read by Lorelei King. The first of four readings from classic books of 1968
10.05 George Crumb: Sahan Arzruni, piano, plays Makrokosmos, 12 Fantasy Pieces after the Zodiac, Volume 1
10.45 Mixing It: Mark Russell and Robert Sandall present Alan Wilkinson, saxophones, and Paul Hession, drums, in session
11.30 John Dowland: Consort of Musicke under Anthony Rooley performs works by the lutenist and composer
12.30am News
12.35-12.45 Hits of the Sixties (r)
1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland: as Radio 5 at 9am)
2.30-3.10 Night School Extra: Satellites français (1-4)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, *incl* **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** The Week on 4 **8.43** Smiling through the Slump: Professor Theo Barker recalls how people lived through the Depression of the 1920s and 1930s **8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Start the Week, with Melvyn Bragg and Barbara Amiel. The guests are Patsy Rodenburg, Tom Bower, Charles Nicholl and Pat Caplan
10.00-10.30 News; The Mating Game (FM only): See Choice
10.00 Daily Service (LW only) from St German's Church, Cardiff
10.15 The Bible (LW only): Genesis. Read by Sir John Gielgud (r)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Karen Deco examines the *added pressures* on family life when a parent is gay. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Money Box Live: 071-580 444. Lines open from 10am
12.00 News; You and Yours: The first in a series of programmes on British justice. Michael Mansfield, barrister for the Birmingham Six, discusses miscarriages of justice
12.25 Brain of Britain 1993: First *Round — The South of* England **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 News; The Other Side of the Hill: Peter Luke's second play about the Peninsular campaign charts the Duke of Wellington's progress from the battle of Badajoz to the battle of Waterloo. With Michael Pennington, John Moffatt and Dominic Rickhards (r)
3.30 Home Truths: John Miller invites the writer and academic Richard Hoggart to explain how his view of England has changed as a result of time spent abroad
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope talks to the theatre critic Michael Billington about his collected writings; examines the work of the Gulbenkian Foundation in Portugal; and talks to Danny Thompson and *his group, The Road West*
4.45 Short Story: Sub-Alpine Meadow, by Barbara Anderson. Read by Jane Whittenshew
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The News Quiz, chaired by Barry Took (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Jumping the Rug. Michael Crompton tackles the theme of child abuse. With Geraldine Alexander as Isabel and Julia Ford as Ruth (r)
8.45 Conversation Piece: Sue MacGregor talks to Alison Kinnaird about her life and careers as a glass engraver and a harpist (r)
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Heather Payton **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: The Heather Blazing, by Colm Tóibín. Donal McCann reads the sixth of ten episodes
11.00 You Heard It Here First: Radio Active (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

CHOICE

BBC Lunchtime Concert. *Radio 3, 1.05pm.*
If you think you hear Beethoven's grunt of approval during today's live relay from St John's, Smith Square, of his B flat String Quartet Op 130, it may not be entirely imaginary. The Vogler Quartet has opted for the *Grosse Fuge* finale, Beethoven's original and the one he preferred. But because the finale was poorly received at its premiere, his publisher persuaded him to write a substitute that was easier to play. In the event, it was just as difficult, and the *Grosse Fuge* came into its own.

The Mating Game. *Radio 4, 10.00am (FM only).*
What do camels do when they smell cigarette smoke? Why are there no woodpeckers in Madagascar? This natural history quiz tells us, and also explains the elaborate courtship rituals of the poison-arrow frog and the ring-tail lemur. The unasked, and therefore unanswered, question is why today's four panellists, all wildlife specialists, are rewarded with a football stadium roar whenever they answer correctly. Are there no clapping chimpanzees anywhere in the BBC sound archives? **Peter Davalle**

RADIO 1
FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) **6.00** Simon Mayo **9.00** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Jakki Brambles **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **5.00** *News '93* **5.30** *Mark Goodier's Evening Session* **8.30** Backstage Pass at 1 FM's Sheffield Sound City Week **9.00** Out on Blue Six with Mark Radcliffe **10.00** Nicky Campbell Goes into the Night **12.00-4.00am** Bob Harris (FM only)

RADIO 2
FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy: The Early Show **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.05** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Alan Dell with Dance Band Days, and at **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton with The Best of Jazz **10.00** Voices: Lee Wiley **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Digby Fairweather **1.00** Steve Madden **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5
News and sport on the hour until 7.00pm. **6.00am** World Service **6.30** Danny Baker **9.00** Schools: Topic Resources 5-7; **9.15** English 9-11; **9.35** Poetry Corner; **9.45** Let's Move!; **10.05** Maths 9-11; **10.15** Ghostwriter **10.25** Wiggly Park **10.30** *Johnnie Walker* **12.30pm** *And Now Read On* **1.00** *News Update* **1.10** BFBS Worldwide **2.30** Sportsbeat **4.30** Five Aside **6.30** The Mall (7/14) **7.00** Sportsdesk **7.15** How Green You Are! by Berlie Doherty (r) **7.30** Greywing (3/6) (r) **8.00** Streetwalk **8.30** Fanshawe on Five **8.30** Fantastic Voyage **10.10** Fabulous! **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE
All times in BST. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **6.00** Morgenmagazin; Tips für Touristen **6.30** Londres Matin **6.00** News **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Recording of the Week **7.30** Life on Mars **8.00** News **8.30** The Language of Flowers **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** Health Matters **9.30** Anything Goes **10.00** News **10.05** Business Report **10.15** An English Alphabet **10.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **10.45** Sport **11.00** Life on Mars **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** Newsdesk **12.30pm** Composer of the Month: Berlioz **1.00** News **1.10** Words of Faith **1.15** Brain of Britain **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.00** News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Off the Shelf: The Handmaid's Tale **3.45** Pop the Question **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.15** BBC English **5.30** Londres Soir **6.00** News **6.05** Business Report **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.05** German Features **8.00** News **8.05** Outlook **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** News **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** The World Today **9.30** The Vintage Chart Show **10.00** News **11.15** The World That Came in from the Cold **11.45** Sport **Midnight** News **12.05am** Business Report **12.15** The Learning World **12.30** Multitrack **1 1.00** News **1.30** Break a Leg **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Folk Routes **2.45** Health Matters **3.00** News **3.30** Brain of Britain **4.00** News **4.15** Sport

CLASSIC FM
6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Robert Booth **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Saint-Saëns (Violin Concerto No 3) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Classic Reports with Margaret Howard **7.00** Classical Gas with Johnny Black **8.00** Evening Concert: Brahms (Academic Festival Overture); Ravel (Piano Concerto in G: Andrew Litton) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** André Leon

VIRGIN 1215
6.00am Russ Williams **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Mitch Johnson **4.00** Tommy Vance **7.00** Jonathan Coleman **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00** Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz.

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TEMPUS 38
METEORIC RISE ON WALL STREET NOT AS GOOD AS IT LOOKS

BUSINESS

POWER SURGE 37
ELECTRICITY FIRMS EXPECT TO DECLARE BIG PROFITS

MONDAY MAY 24 1993

Ford lifts threat to Dagenham

By Kevin Eason
Motoring Correspondent

■ Dagenham has proved so efficient that it has been chosen by Ford of Europe to pioneer development of the replacement for the best-selling Fiesta

WORKERS at Ford's biggest UK plant have persuaded the company to lift the threat of closure after achieving a 50 per cent improvement in productivity.

Jacques Nasser, the new chairman of Ford of Europe, has ended months of anguish for employees at the company's plant at Dagenham, Essex, who were convinced that they would be first for the axe if the company had to make further cuts to cope with its huge financial losses.

Although Ford of Britain is expected to announce this week that its 1992 deficit was the second worst on record at about £300 million, Mr Nasser has ended speculation by disclosing to *The Times* that huge efficiency gains have transformed Dagenham. The plant has now been nominated a "lead plant" for Europe.

That means Dagenham will pioneer development of the company's replacement for the best-selling Fiesta model, which is due to be launched in two years, and act as a training and research centre for the rest of Europe.

Mr Nasser, speaking for the first time since taking over in January, said that the progress of the British plants, which include Halewood on Merseyside, had been remarkable. After lagging behind the Continent for years, Mr Nasser said that the efficiency differences between Ford's six leading manufacturing plants would be "invisible" next year.

There could never be any firm guarantee, but he said there were no plans for plant closures, particularly in the UK, which is now the sole source for some models of cars and vans and components.

He said: "More than any company, we have a very integrated structure. The people here have a very positive attitude and that has made a big difference for the future."

At one point, British productivity was so far behind the rest of Ford's European empire that workers and union officials were read the riot act by management.

Big jobs losses last year led unions to demand repeatedly an assurance that no British plant would be closed as the recession took hold of the business.

Mr Nasser is not optimistic that the European business, which chalked up a loss of $1.3 billion, can return to profit during this year as sales on the Continent plummet under the weight of recession, down by about 17 per cent so far this year.

Output at Dagenham has been cut from 1,250 Fiestas a day to about 850 as export orders decline. A third of output is oow going overseas compared with 50 per cent at peak last year.

Mr Nasser said that high marketing costs and the instability of exchange rates were hurting cootinental operations at a time when the business was preparing to meet the threat of increased Japanese competition in Europe.

The British plants have gained from the dramatic swings in exchange rates and have been extensively slimmed down before most of Fords' competitors. The workforce at Dagenham has been cut by 1,000 in the past year.

Mr Nasser added: "There is no doubt that the British plants have the edge at the moment. We are now very flexible and ready to meet the challenges to come."

The improvement in productivity at Dagenham will give a crucial enhancement in competitiveness at a time when continental demand is declining sharply.

Although productioo by British manufacturers continued to rise last month, Ford of Europe expects the deepening recession to cut total car sales in continental Europe by 18.8 per cent to just under 11 million this year.

Because of their heavy reliance on export production, the Ford plants in Britain are likely to find themselves increasingly vying with continental rivals for business as the year wears on.

Fighting back, page 38

Riding out the recession: Tom Benson, head of Wear Dock Engineering, is planning to increase turnover and take on more employees

BT3 terms to be set out today

By Jon Ashworth

THE government is expected to confirm the sale of its entire stake in BT when the latest privatisation offer kicks off in London today. Terms of the issue are expected to reveal that the remaining 21.9 per cent in BT will be made available, raising up to £5.5 billion for the public purse.

The terms, to be announced at a ceremony in Westminster, will be accompanied by an £11 million advertising campaign. Details of the probable split between retail and institutional issues will be announced but, since this is a tender offer, no price will be given.

Payment methods will also be outlined. Last time, private investors were allowed to pay in three instalments, and a similar offer would fit in with the government's desire to widen share ownership. Priority is being given to those who put their BT shares into a Pep.

Rosyth seeks cut-price Trident work to save jobs

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

MANAGERS at Rosyth Royal Dockyard have submitted a new cut-price bid to refurbish nuclear Trident submarines in a last-ditch effort to prevent the loss of up to 18,000 Scottish jobs. They fear ministers will be tempted to allocate the work to the rival Devonport yard at Plymouth in an effort to stem the political advance of the Liberal Democrats in the South West.

Io a highly unusual step, Babcock Thorn, operator of the Rosyth yard, has published results of a survey which suggests the Conservatives would be more damaged by a decline in Scottish support.

Allan Smith, managing director of Rosyth, believes ministers are now only two to three weeks away from announcing an outcome to the two-year battle for survival between the yards. Yesterday he confirmed that Rosyth has submitted its third bid for the make-or-break contract. He said: "My view is that our price must now be below that of Devonport because it is a much simpler scheme and will be less costly to implement." Mr Smith said Rosyth managers had been able to reduce the cost of their proposals further by re-positioning equipment so that less was needed.

Devonport managers are also believed to have revised their "final" offer downwards. Last night a spokesman said: "We are absolutely confident that Devonport offers the best value for money."

Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, has promised that neither yard will close. But managers at Rosyth, which has 4,000 employees and which supports many more jobs in Scotland, fear there will be little future for their dockyard if it loses its specialist nuclear re-fitting role. At Devonport, which employs 5,000 directly and acts as a cornerstone of the Devon economy, they say the nuclear contract is essential because they may lose refurbishment work oo surface ships to private sector yards.

Earlier this year, Rosyth abandoned plans to complete new facilities at a cost of £267 million, offering instead to spend £147 million refurbishing two docks opened in 1916. Devonport, meanwhile, has pared the cost of refurbishing its dry docks from £162 millioo to £131 million.

Mr Smith said: "I am confident we would win on price, but there is a lot of pressure on the government in order to stem the Lib Dem's advance." However, according to Mr Smith, four conservative seats are at risk in Scotland.

Engineer profits by innovation

By Derek Harris

WEAR Dockyard Group, in Sunderland, is the sort of success story sorely needed in the North East, as fears grow for Swan Hunter, Tyneside's last shipbuilder. The private firm's profits held up in the recession, helped by its combination of ship repairs and large-scale steel fabrication.

WDG's two repair yards, on the Wear and the Tees, accounted for 80 per cent of last year's £26 million turnover, while the Wear Dock Engineering subsidiary recently fabricated the world's biggest "plough", weighing 140 tonnes, to cut a gas pipeline channel in the North Sea.

Tom Benson, managing director at WDE, said: "Everybody would like to see more work but with us the recession has not been felt and profit levels have been maintained. In the current 12 months we plan to increase turnover and employ more people."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is taken from the game Cranbourne — Chavez, Correspondence 1987. The key to this position are the white bishops which exert tremendous pressure on the diagonals leading to the black king. How did white conclude?

Solution on page 37 Championship Chess, page 10

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

YAUD
a. An orange pigment
b. An old mare
c. A racing sail

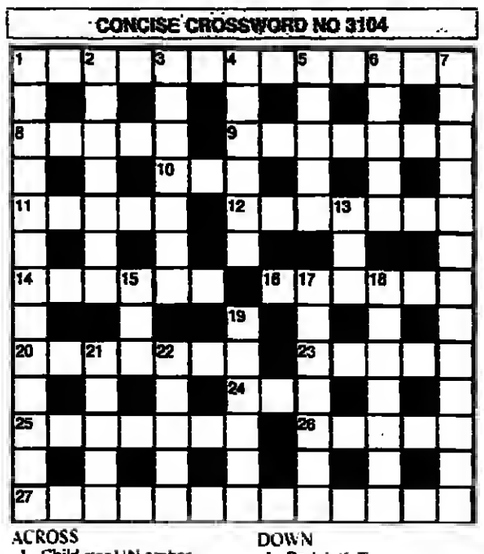
BISONTINE
a. Resembling a bison
b. A beggarly knave
c. With twin prongs

MACKALLOW
a. A young mackerel
b. A fostering present
c. To libel in verse

SKAZ
a. A type of clay-pigeon
b. To tease or mock
c. A fictitious narrative

Answers on page 37

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3104



ACROSS
1 Child star UN ambassador (7,6)
8 Spanish coast (5)
9 Firm-floored (7)
10 Communist (3)
11 Light bulb gas (5)
12 Voter (7)
14 Uproar (6)
16 Confused noise (6)
20 Scottish emblem (7)
23 Hindu teacher (5)
24 Animal doctor (3)
25 Set in motion (7)
26 Assisted (5)
27 Telepath (7,6)

DOWN
1 Pariah (6,7)
2 Penetrating understanding (7)
3 Trainee (7)
4 Over there (6)
5 Premium Bonds computer (5)
6 Guide (5)
7 Authority enhancer (6,7)
13 Taxi (3)
15 New Russia (1,1,1)
17 Steal show from (7)
18 Marked (7)
19 Go back to old ways (6)
21 Halved (2,3)
22 Nasal voice (5)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3103

ACROSS: 1 Full time 5 Hair 9 Let down 10 Bacon 11 Herb 12 Evening 14 Carmen 16 Ascend 19 Ammeter 21 Apse 24 Bluff 25 Hellene 26 Easy 27 Snowball

DOWN: 1 Full 2 Lithe 3 Trouble 4 Minder 6 Archive 7 Renegade 8 Able 13 Scrabble 15 Rumours 17 Swallow 18 Orphan 20 Tuft 22 Siena 23 Seal

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EBRD chief applauds call for cut in overheads

By Colin Narbrough, World Trade Correspondent

THE enquiry into the much-cricitised high spending by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) must look into all aspects of the institution's use of funds and will employ external auditors to ensure proper scrutiny, according to Anne Wibble, the EBRD's newly elected chairman.

"We need to get to the bottom of the matter," Mrs Wibble, the Swedish finance minister, told *The Times* during a visit to London. She urged the governors to make top priority of restoring the bank's image after the media battering it suffered last month. That onslaught, in the run-up to the bank's annual meeting, focused on lavish spending at the bank's Broadgate headquarters and staff, which contrasted with the low level of disbursement to Eastern and Central Europe.

Mrs Wibble said it was "very important" for the audit committee to look not just at spending on the headquarters but at expenditure on air travel, tendering practices and the whole range of EBRD activities. The committee is expected to report to the board of governors in mid-July.

Wibble: top priority

Mrs Wibble wants the EBRD to become much more active in equity investment in local financial institutions in Central and Eastern Europe. She said the equity investment in Estonia had allowed the successful establishment of the Estonian Investment Bank.

Mrs Wibble was not critical of the slow rate of disbursement by the EBRD during its first two years. She said: "Things are always modest at the start." she said she wanted greater priority given to EBRD activity on the ground in its target regions, with more early-stage financial investments in small and medium-sized enterprises.

Attali denial, page 13

CBI targets public sector pay

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

THE government is coming under strong pressure from the Confederation of British Industry for a radical reshaping of pay throughout the public sector to bring it in line with private industry.

Government, business and trade onion sources acknowledge that the CBI was influential in establishing the current 1.5 per cent public sector pay limit, and believe the Treasury is likely to bring in new pay arrangements for 1993-4 and beyond close to what the CBI is proposing.

Howard Davies, CBI director-general, last week held talks with the Treasury centred closely on pay. He also had discussions with John Major and Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet secretary.

An unpublicised CBI working group on public sector pay has produced a set of outline proposals, still to be approved, in a 12-page confidential document called *Public Sector Pay Determination and Processes* which proposes that the government should not repeat a specific pay limit for the public sector this year.

Michael Portillo, Treasury chief secretary, is believed to oppose a precise limit — partly because it looks like a formal incomes policy, and partly because a number of public sector bodies, especially local authorities, have made it clear that they would not have settled as high as 1.5 per cent this year.

The Treasury is keen to adopt almost any proposal that will help restrict public spending. The CBI is proposing a more fluid limit on pay bills, rather than settlements, to allow bodies across the public sector to make differing pay awards while keeping overall public sector costs down. It wants the public sector to adopt private sector pay arrangements including devolution of pay-setting, more "at risk" pay, the end of expected annual increases and greater pay flexibility.

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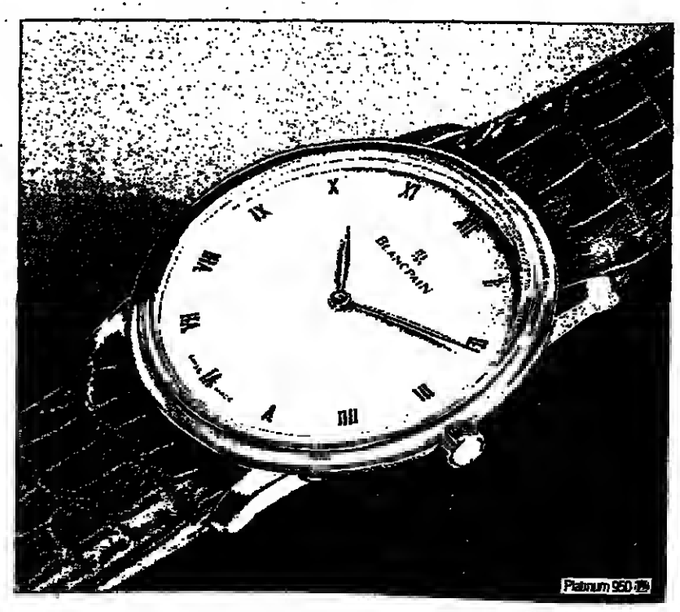

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